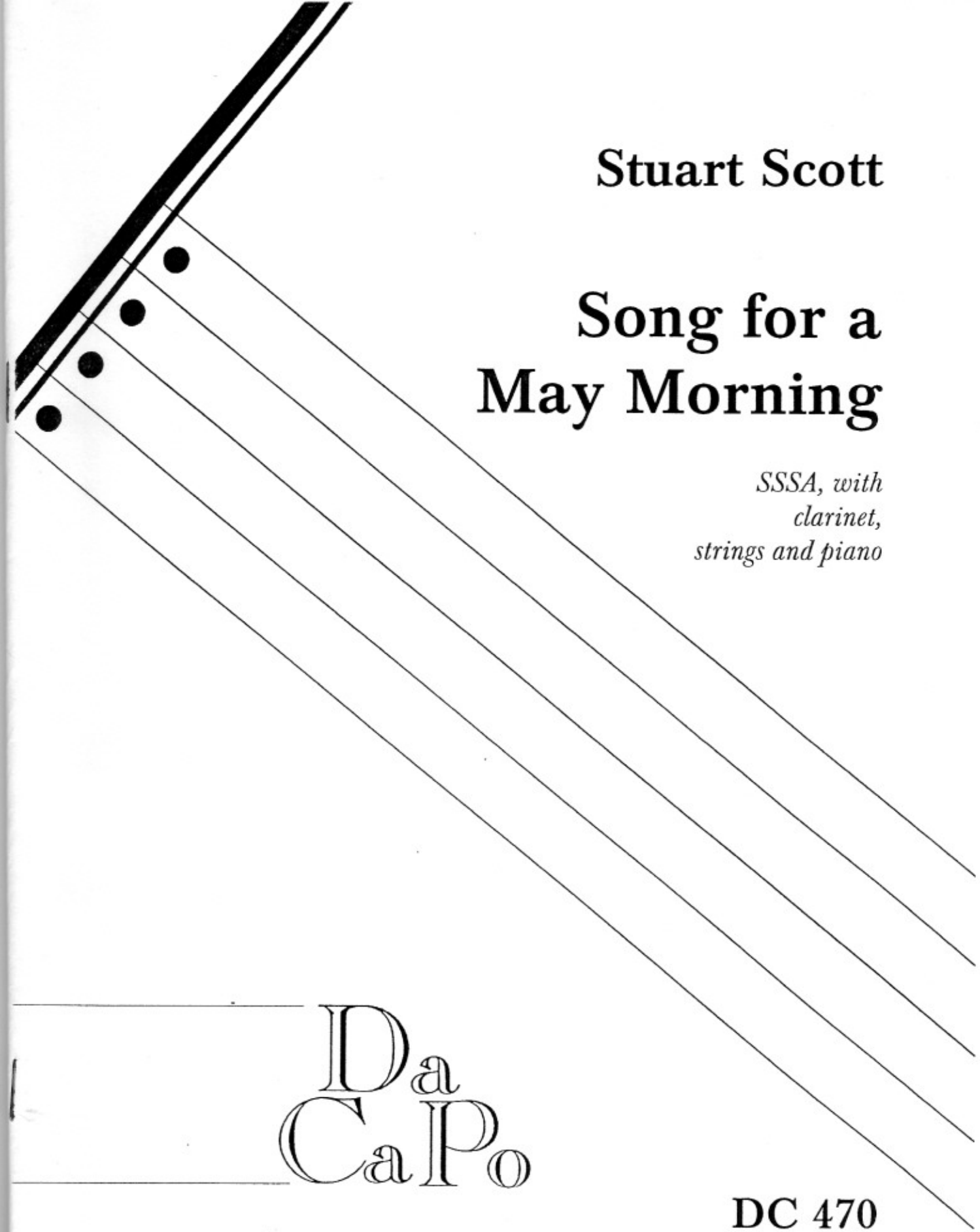


Stuart Scott

Song for a May Morning

SSSA, with clarinet, strings and piano

Da CaPo

DC 470

Stuart Scott

Song for a May Morning

SSSA, with
clarinet, strings and piano

SONG FOR A MAY MORNING for SSSA choir and instrumental ensemble of B flat clarinet, violins, violas and piano.

This piece was written in 1999 for the choir of the Altrincham Girls Grammar School for whom it was commissioned by John Bielby. It was first performed by them on April 10th, 2000 at a Millenium Concert at the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester.
The text by Herbert Trevelyan [the pseudonym of an unknown poet] is reprinted by kind permission of Oxford University Press.

SONG FOR A MAY MORNING

It is May, it is May!
And all the earth is gay,
For at last old winter is quite away:
He lingered awhile on his cloak of snow,
To see the delicate primrose blow;
He saw it, and made no longer stay -
And now it is May, it is May!

It is May, it is May!
And we bless the day
When we first delightedly so can say;
April had beams amidst her showers;
Yet bare were her gardens, and cold her bowers;
And her frown would blight , and her smile betray,
But now it is May, it is May!

It is May, it is May!
And the slenderest spray
Holds up a few leaves to the ripening ray;
And the birds sing fearlessly out on high,
And there's not a cloud in the calm blue sky;
And the villagers join their roundelay -
For, oh! it is May, it is May!

It is May, it is May!
And the flowers obey
The beams which alone are more bright than they;
Yet they spring at the touch of the sun,
And opening their sweet eyes, one by one,
In a language of beauty seem all to say
And of perfume - 'tis May, it is May!

Duration: Approx. 6 mins.

Stuart Scott was born at Stretford near Manchester in 1949 and studied composition with Lennox Berkeley. At the age of 21 he was prize winner at the Stroud Festival International Composers' Competition and since then his music has been performed and broadcast in the UK, USA, Germany, Scandinavia and Japan. He now lives in Sale, Cheshire, and his output includes an opera, orchestral pieces, music for brass ensemble and a string quartet as well as many solo pieces, duos and songs.

Please feel free to use these biographical and programme notes in your concert programmes.

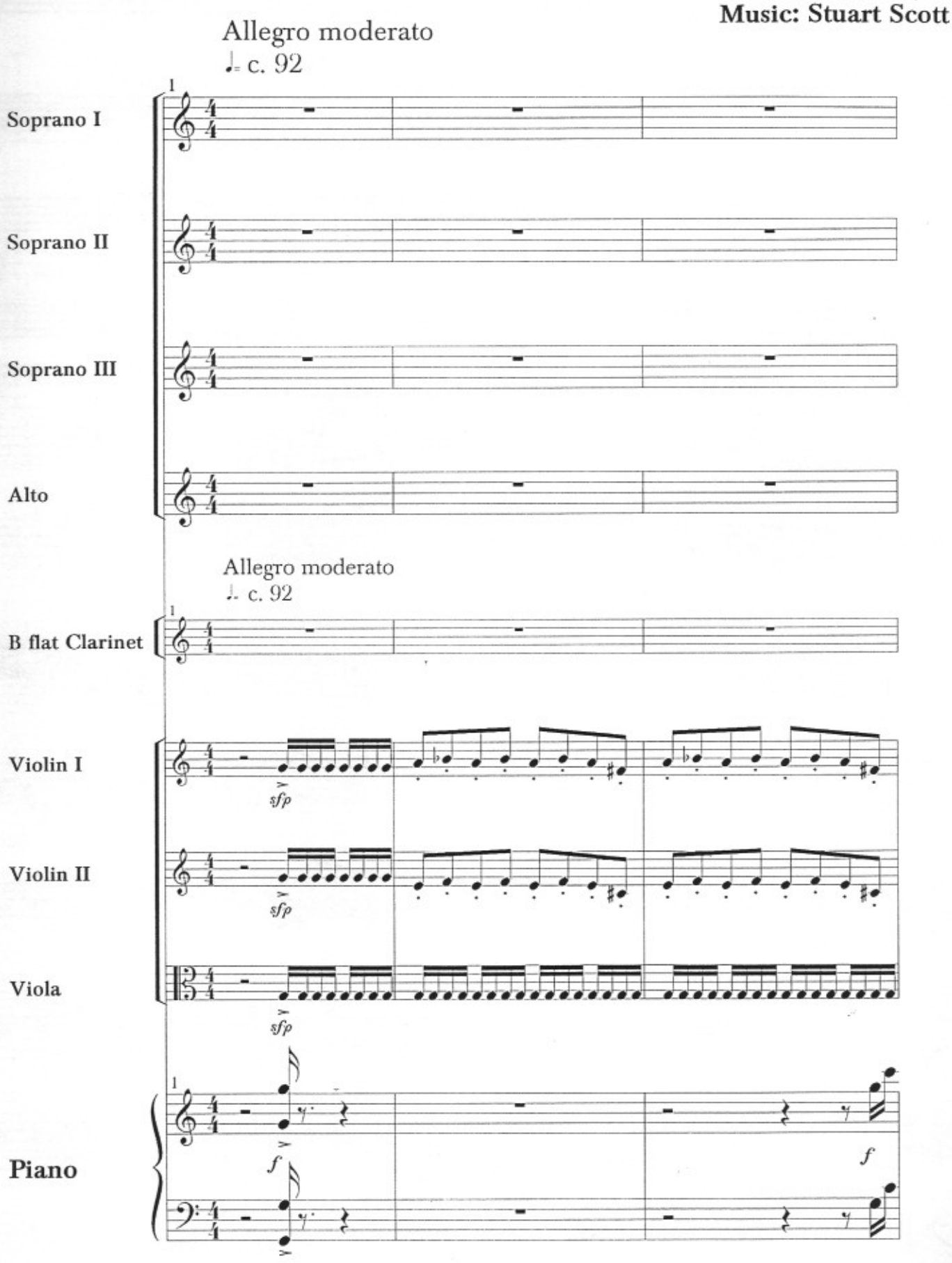
for the Altrincham Girls Grammar School Choir

Song for a May Morning

SSSA, clarinet, strings and piano

Text: Herbert Trevelyan

Music: Stuart Scott



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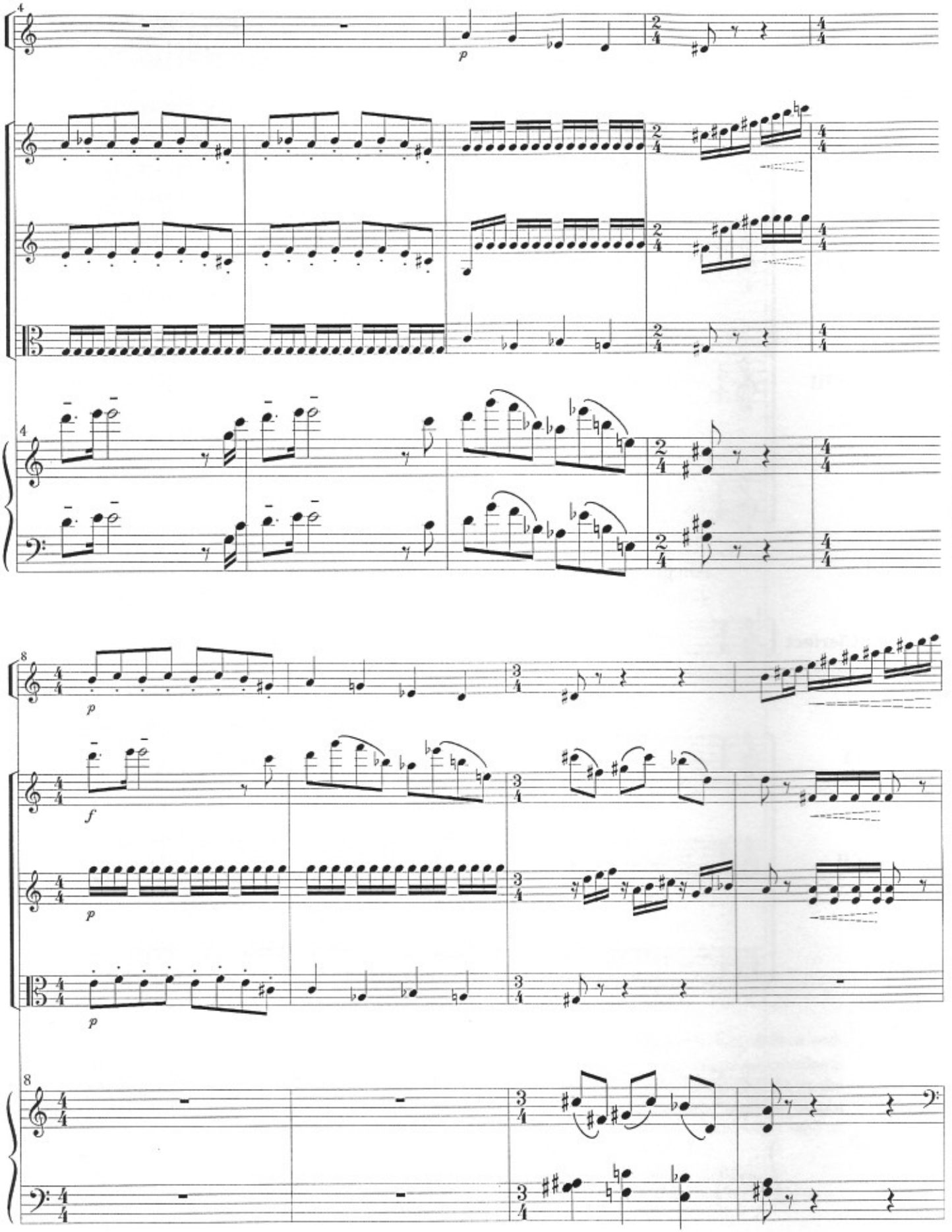
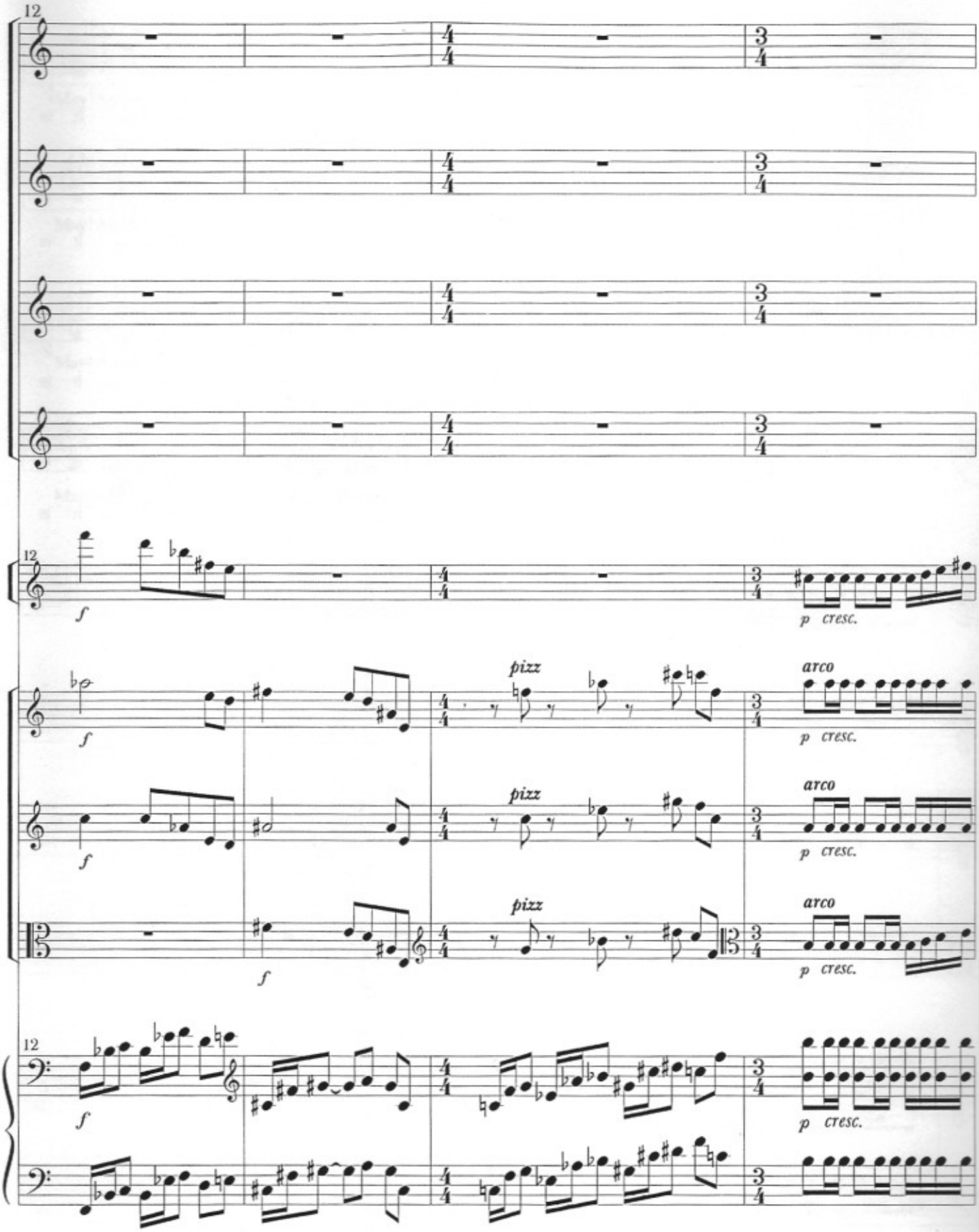
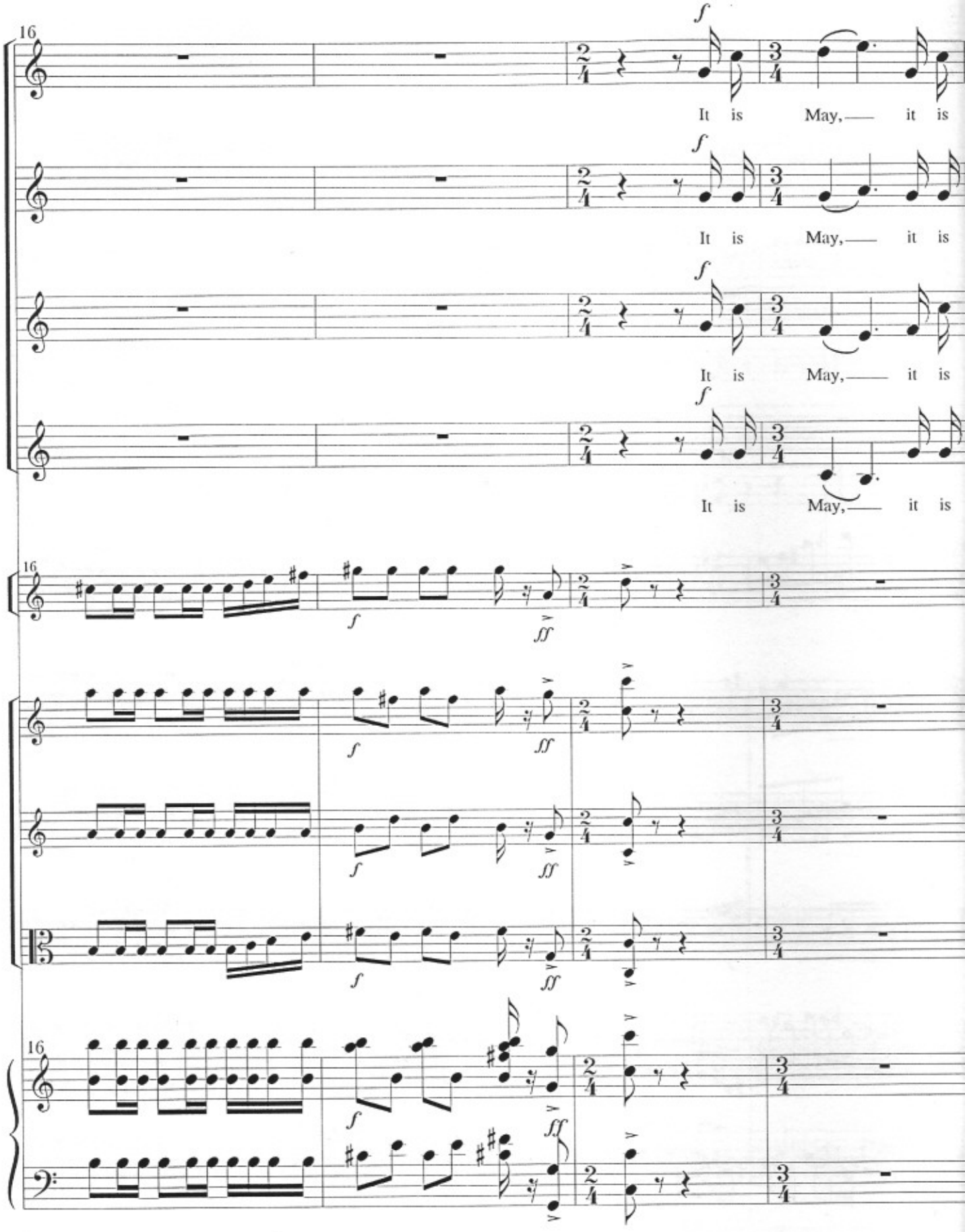
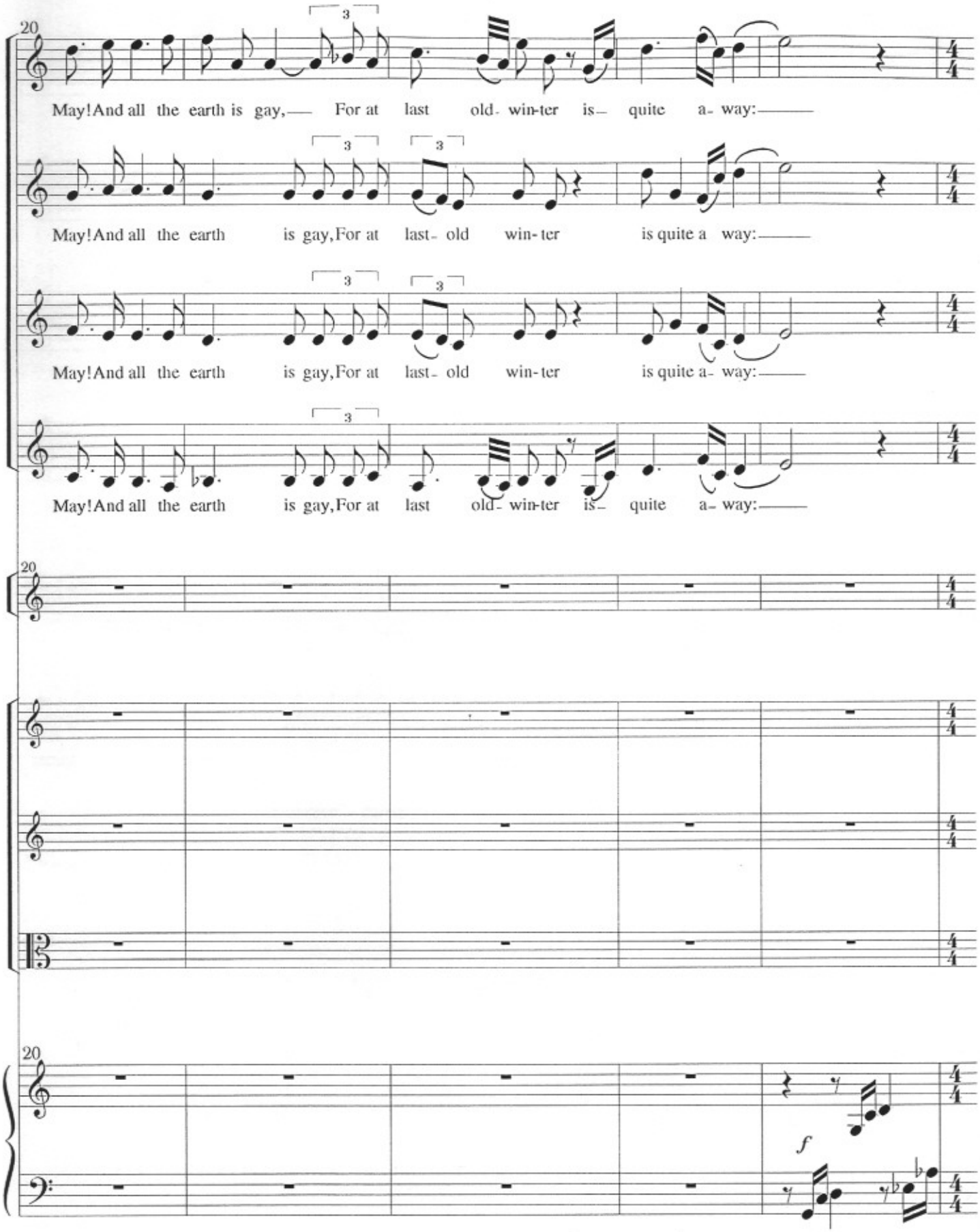
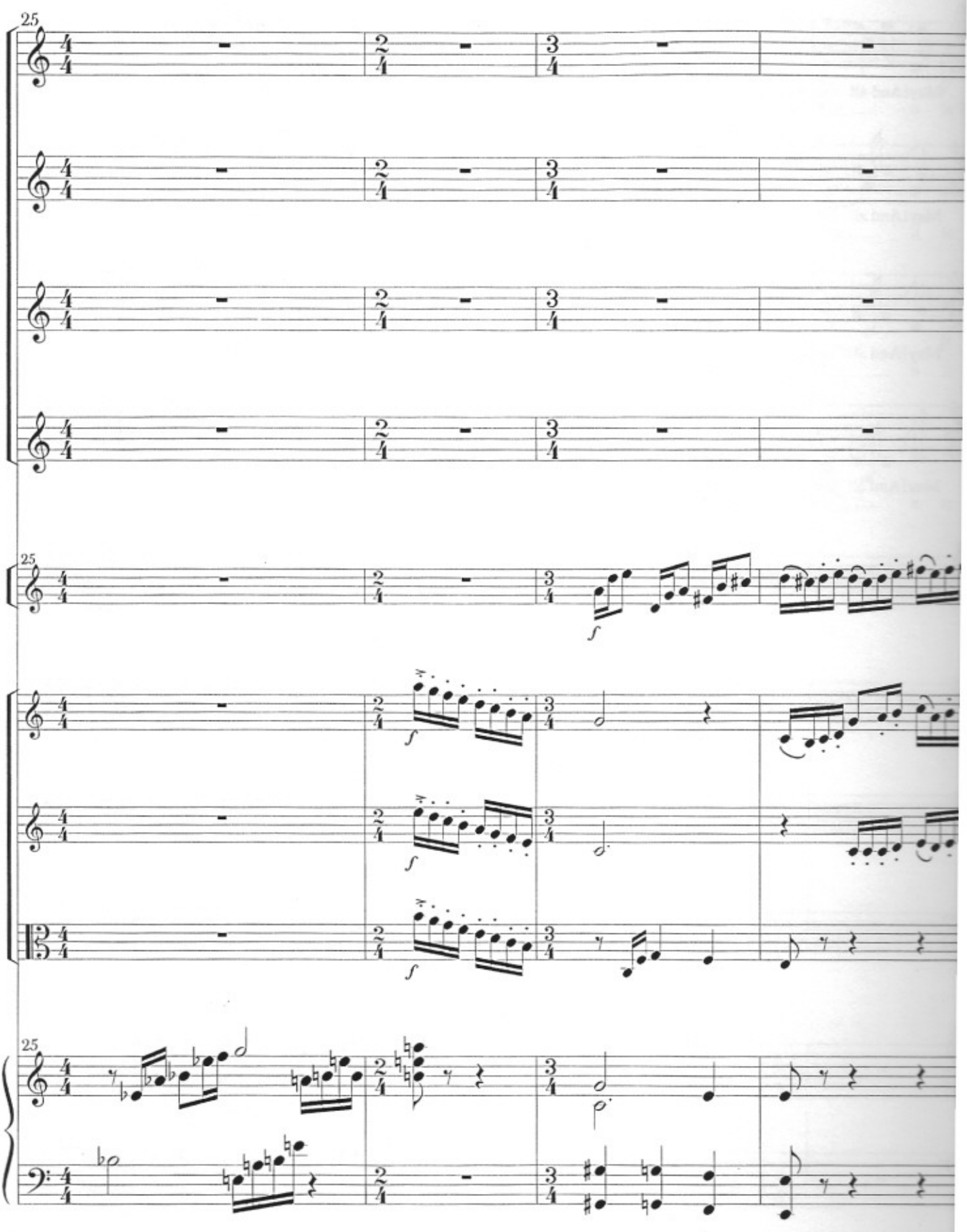
Manchester, England

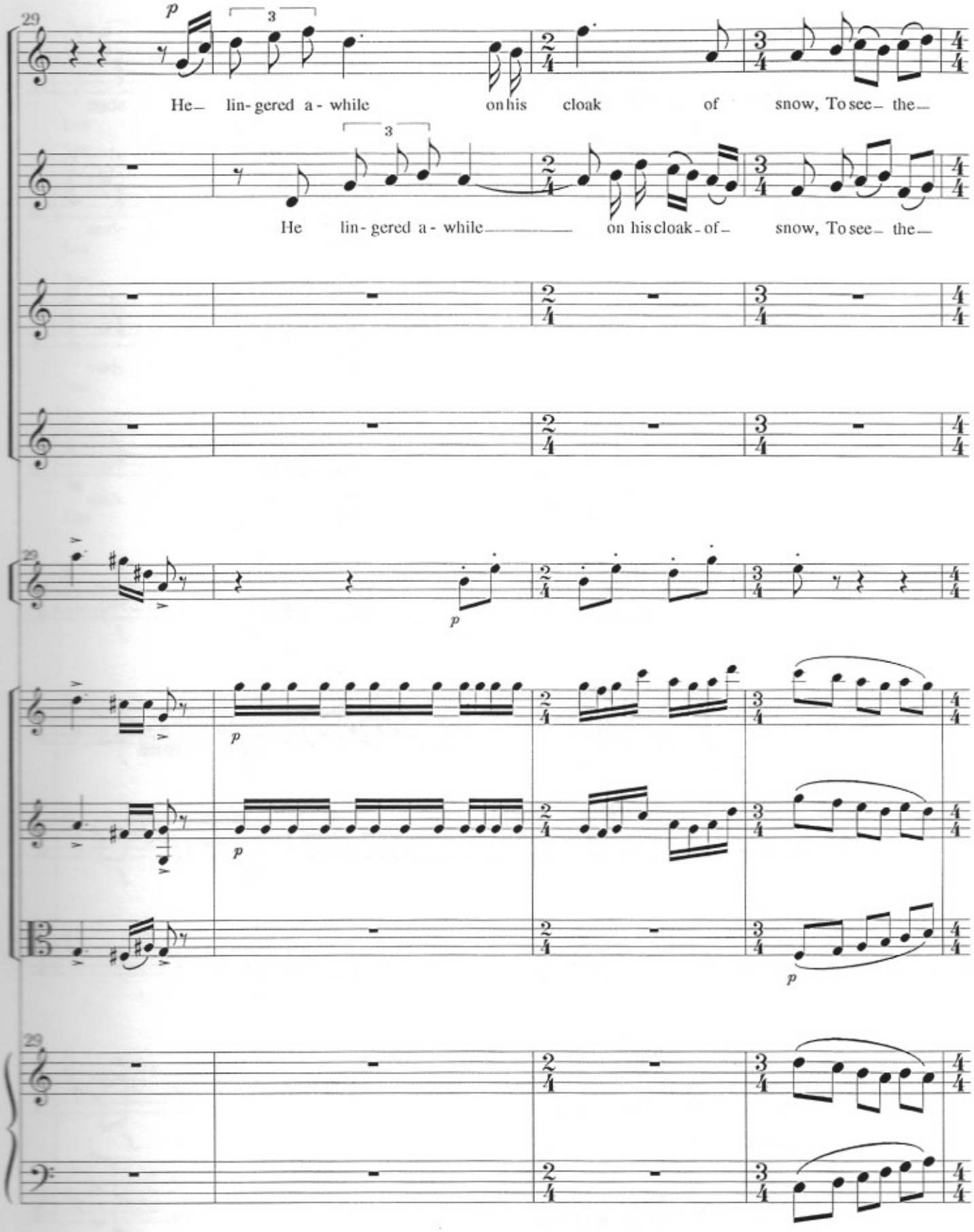

4
p
4
8
p
f
p
p
8

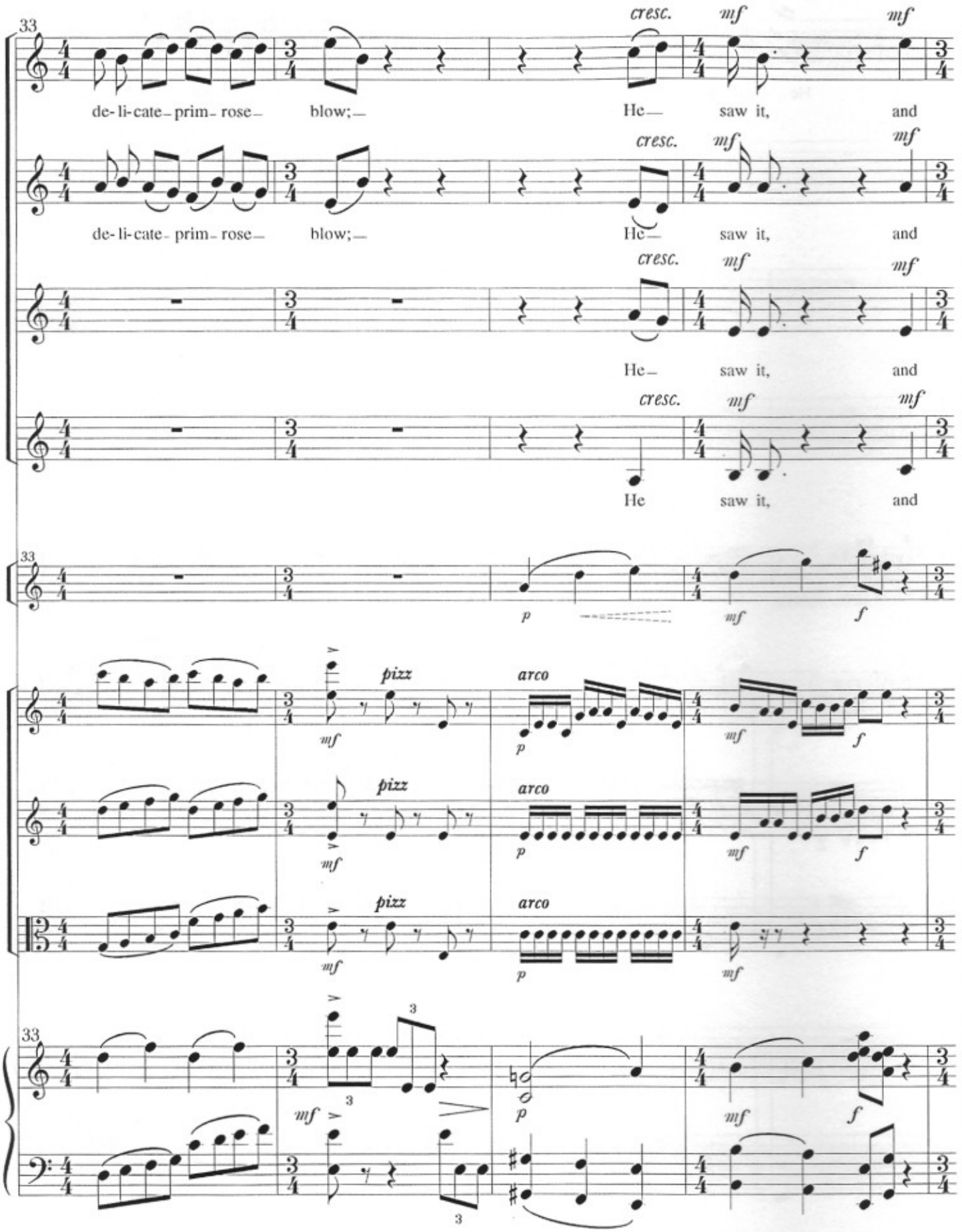

12
f
p cresc.
pizz
arco

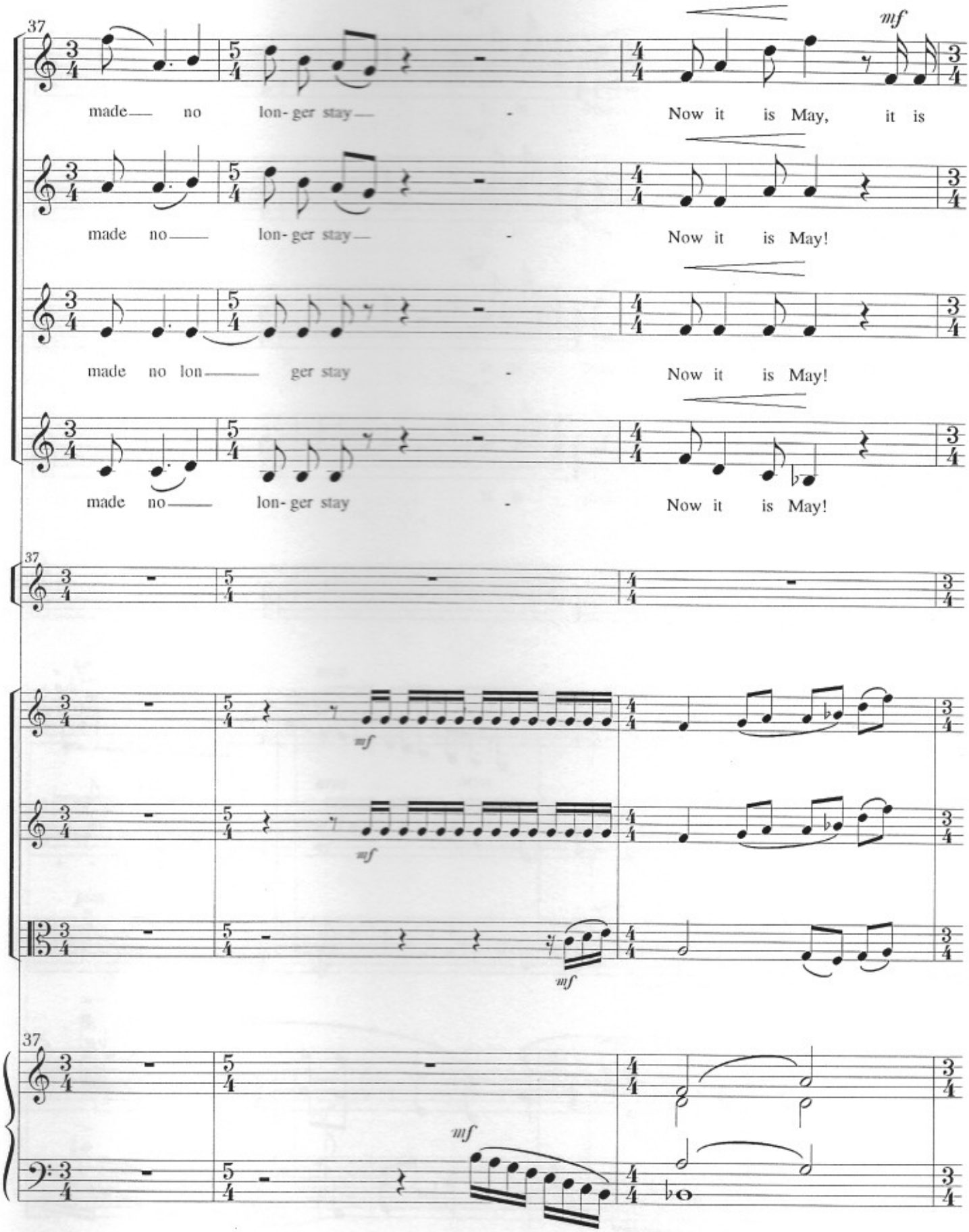

16
f
It is May, — it is
It is May, — it is
It is May, — it is
It is May, — it is
16
f
ff
16
f
ff
16
f
ff

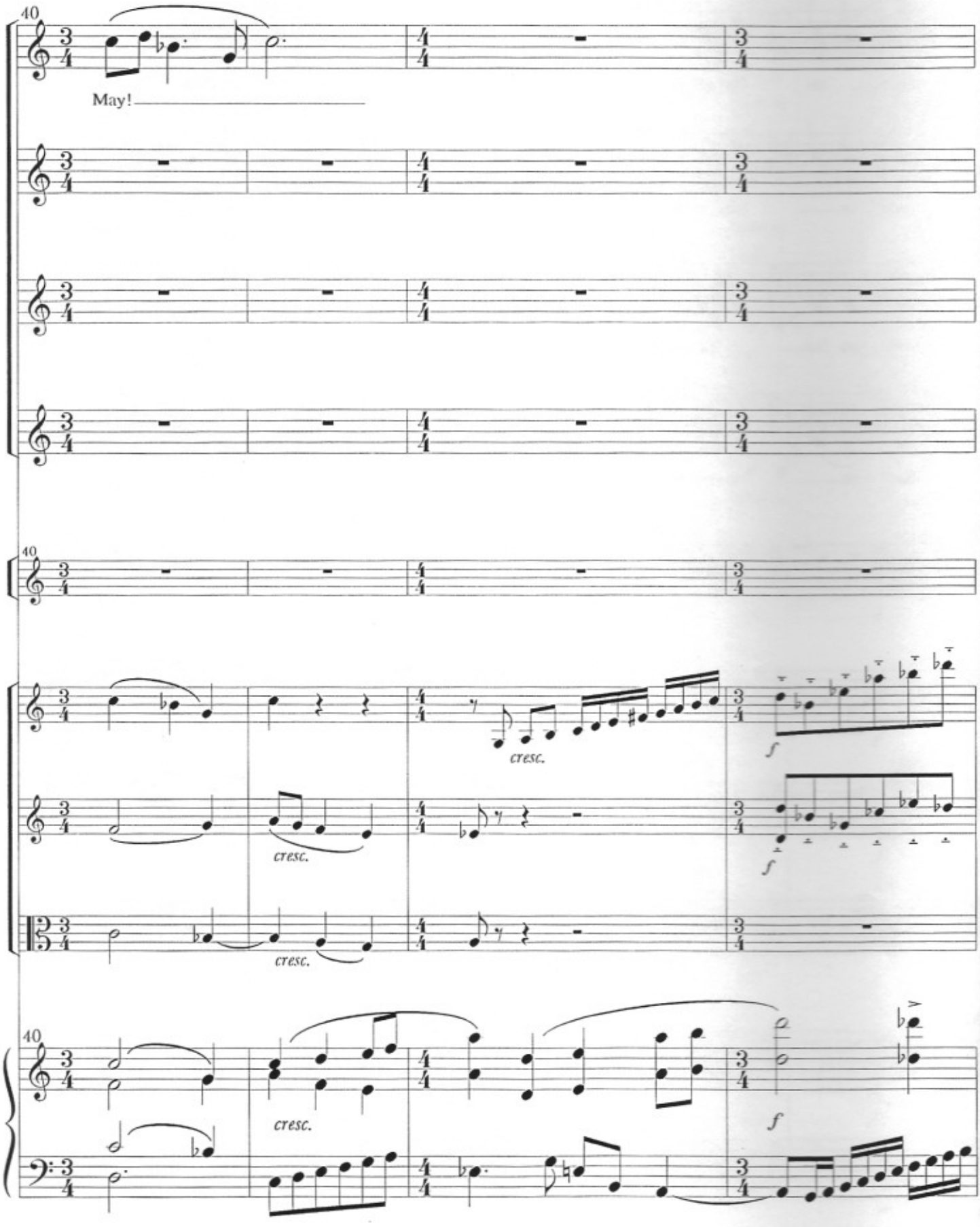

20
May! And all the earth is gay, — For at last old- win-ter is — quite a- way: ——
May! And all the earth is gay, For at last- old win- ter is quite a way: ——
May! And all the earth is gay, For at last- old win- ter is quite a- way: ——
May! And all the earth is gay, For at last old- win-ter is — quite a- way: ——
20
20
f

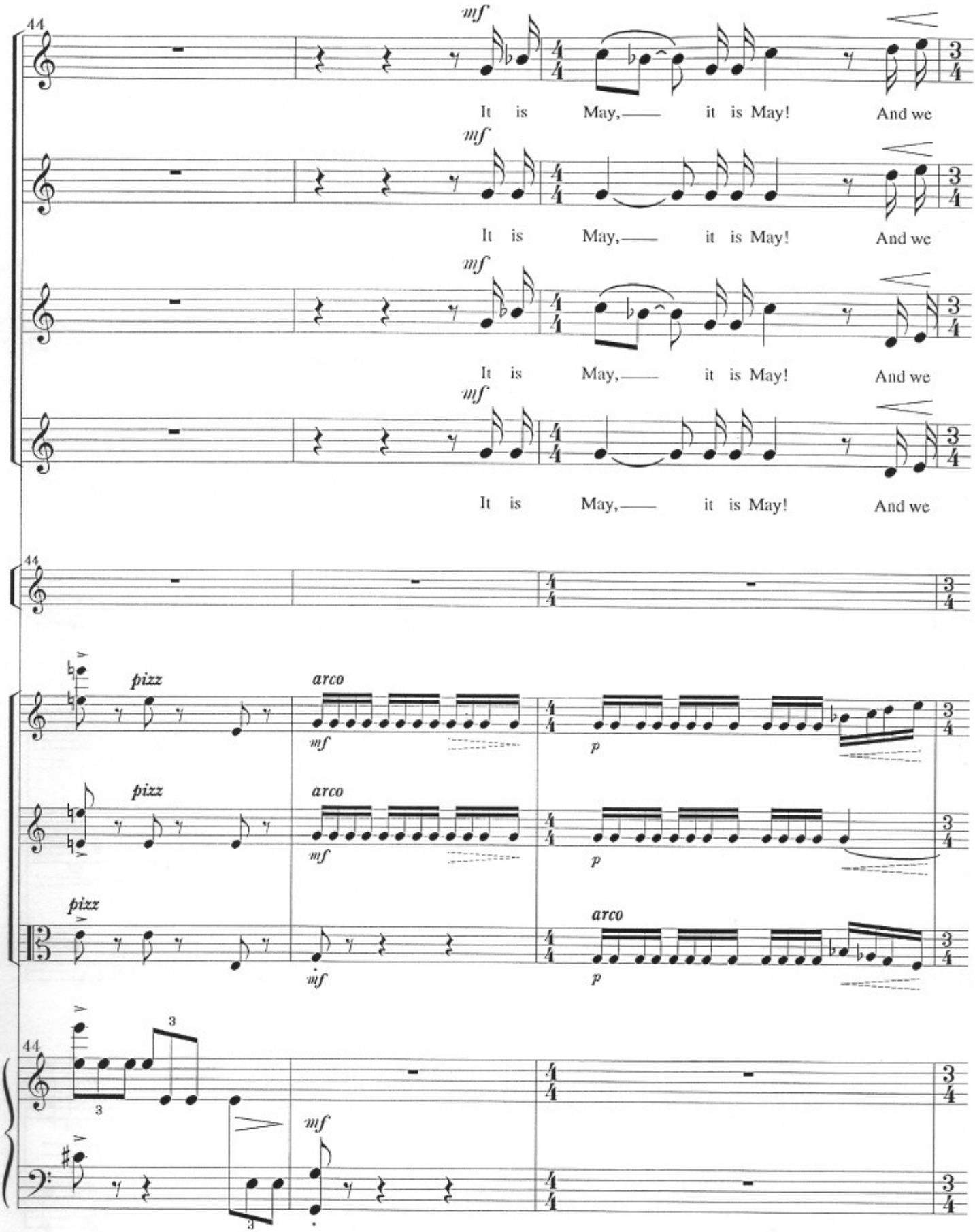

25
25
25

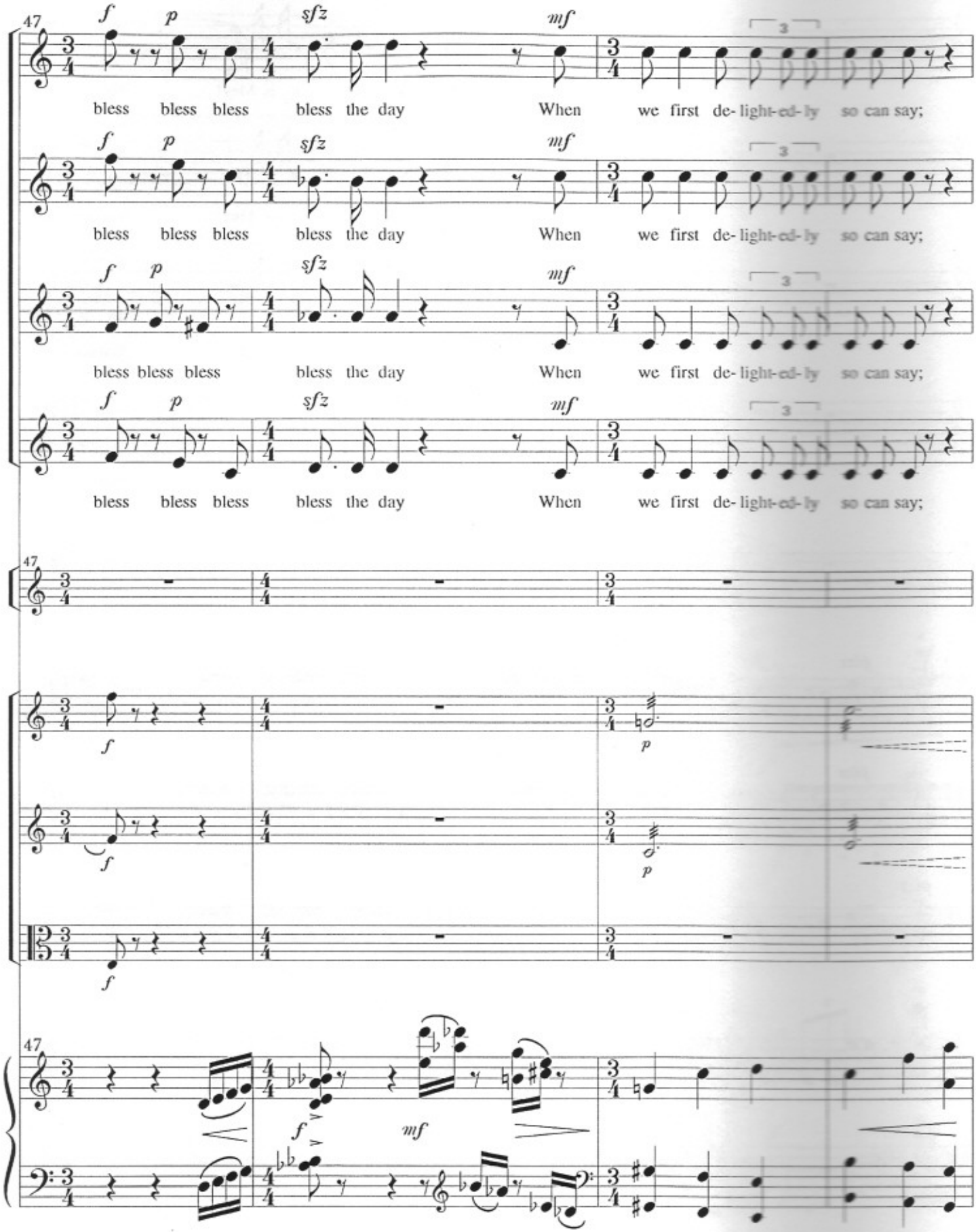

29
p
3
He— lin- gered a- while on his cloak of snow, To see— the—
3
He lin- gered a- while— on his cloak- of— snow, To see— the—
29
p
p
p
p
29

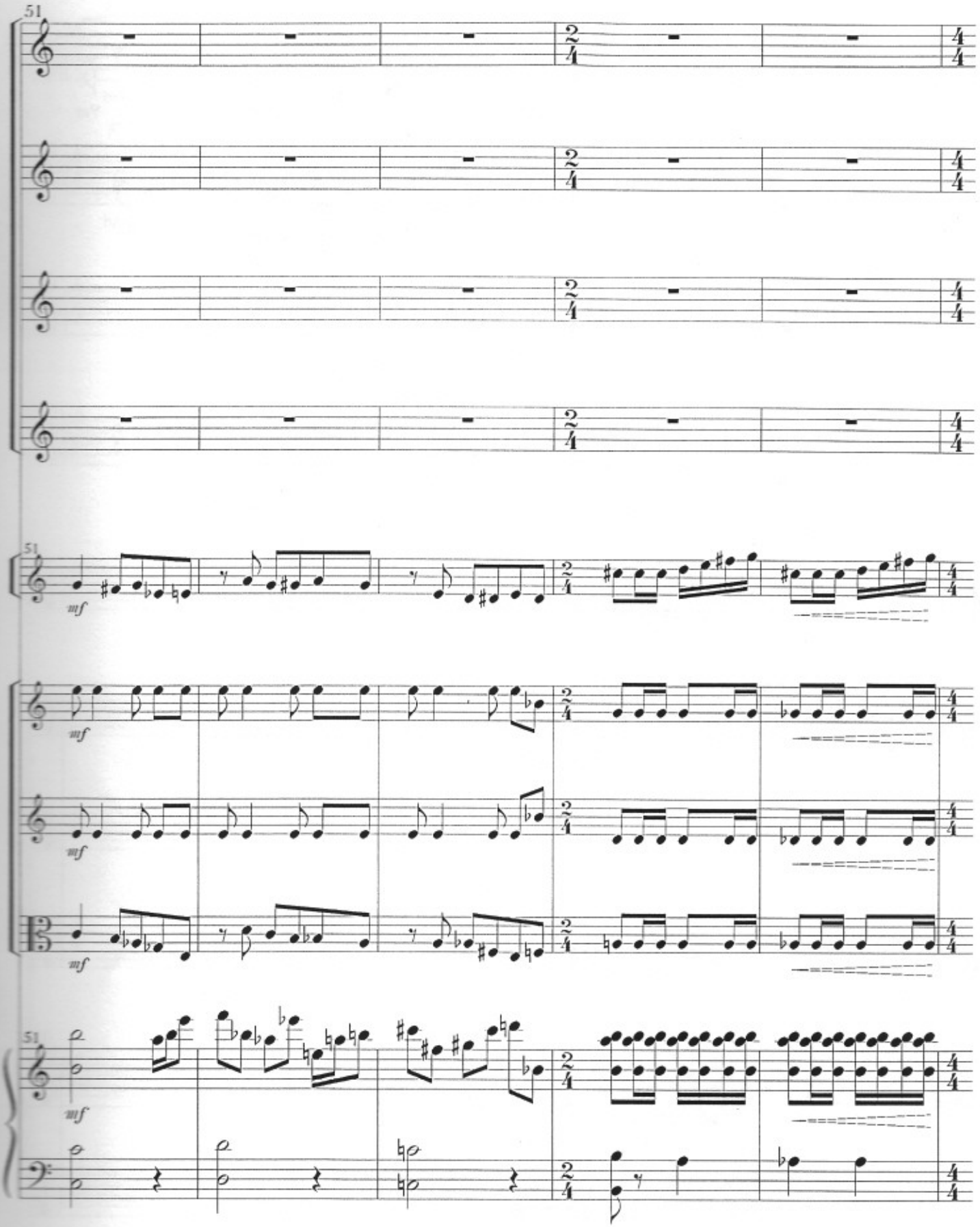

33
cresc.
mf
de-li-cate-prim-rose- blow;-
He- saw it, and
de-li-cate-prim-rose- blow;-
He- saw it, and
He- saw it, and
He saw it, and
p
mf
f
pizz
arco
3

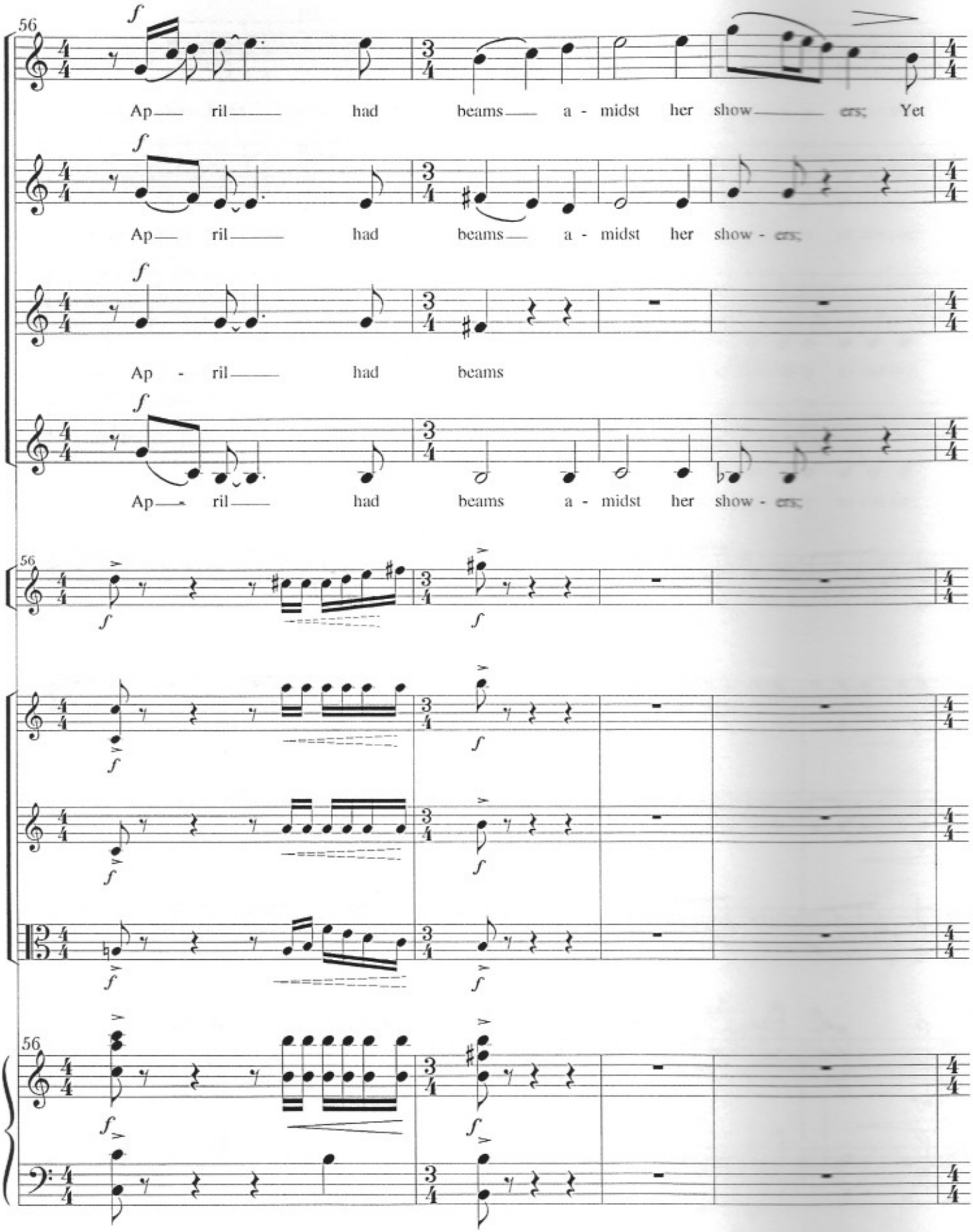

37
mf
made no lon-ger stay - Now it is May, it is
made no lon-ger stay - Now it is May!
made no lon ger stay - Now it is May!
made no lon-ger stay - Now it is May!
37
mf
mf
mf
37
mf

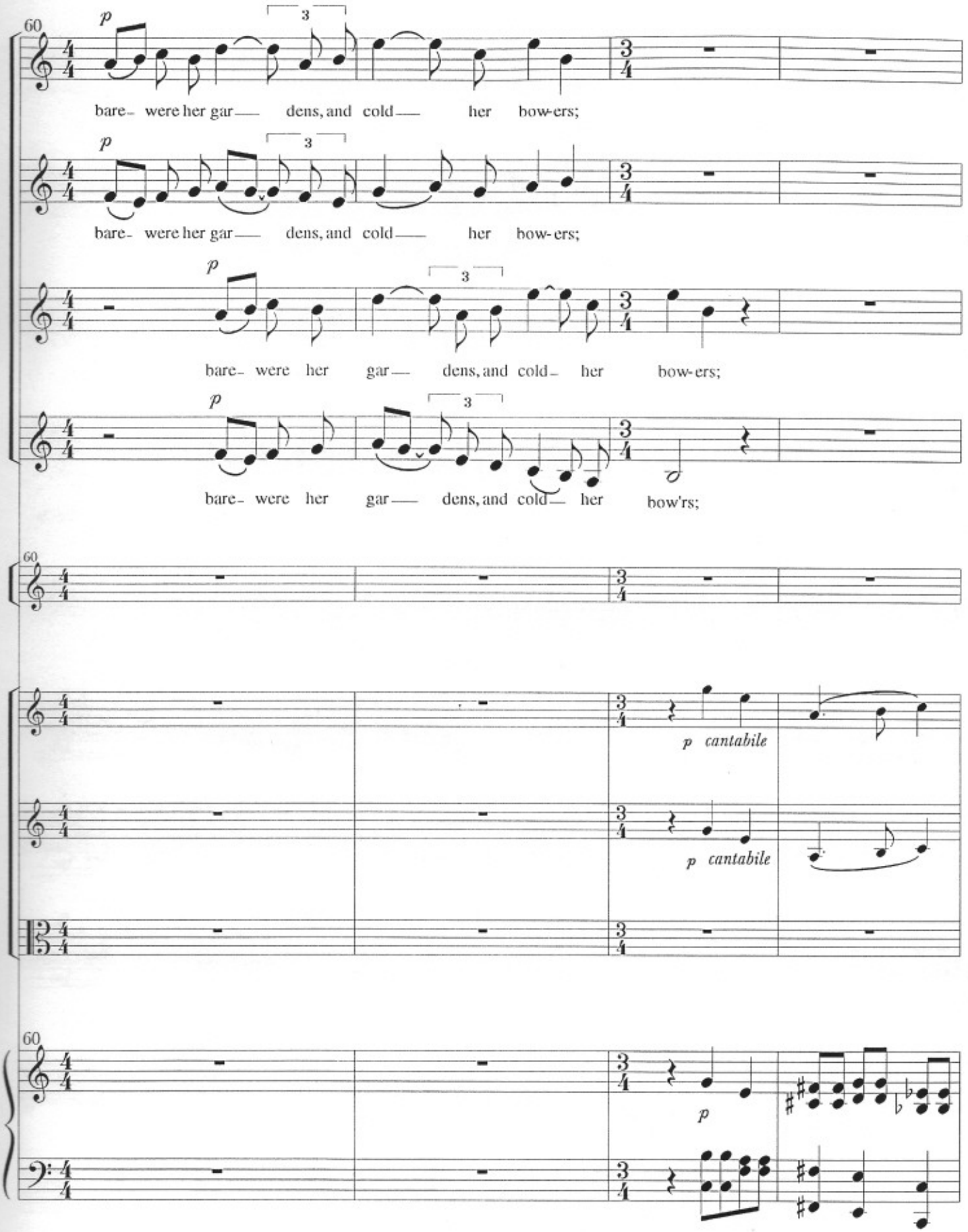

40
May!
40
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
f
f
40
cresc.
f

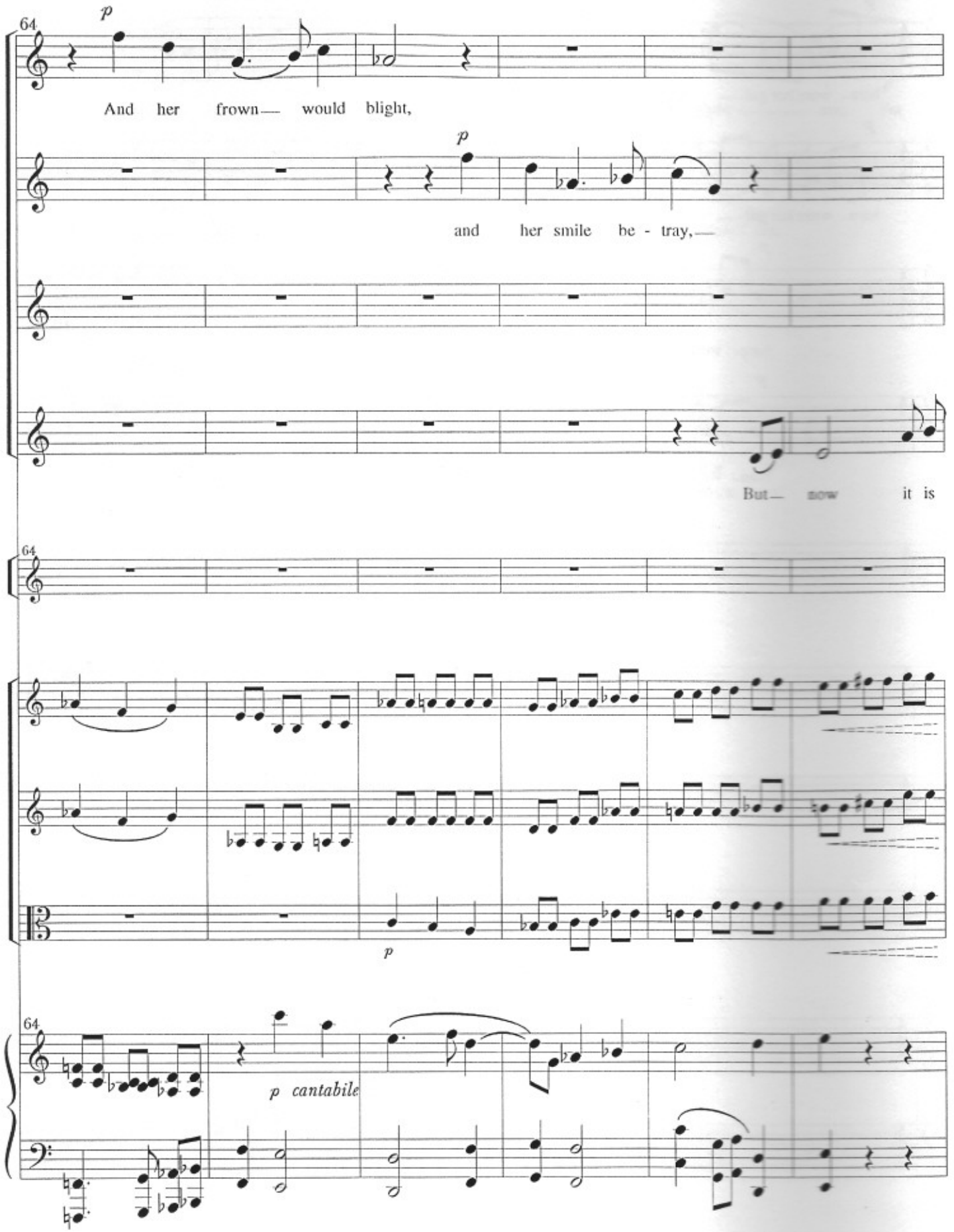

44
mf
It is May, it is May! And we
It is May, it is May! And we
It is May, it is May! And we
It is May, it is May! And we
44
pizz
arco
mf
p
pizz
arco
mf
p
pizz
arco
mf
p
44
3
3
mf

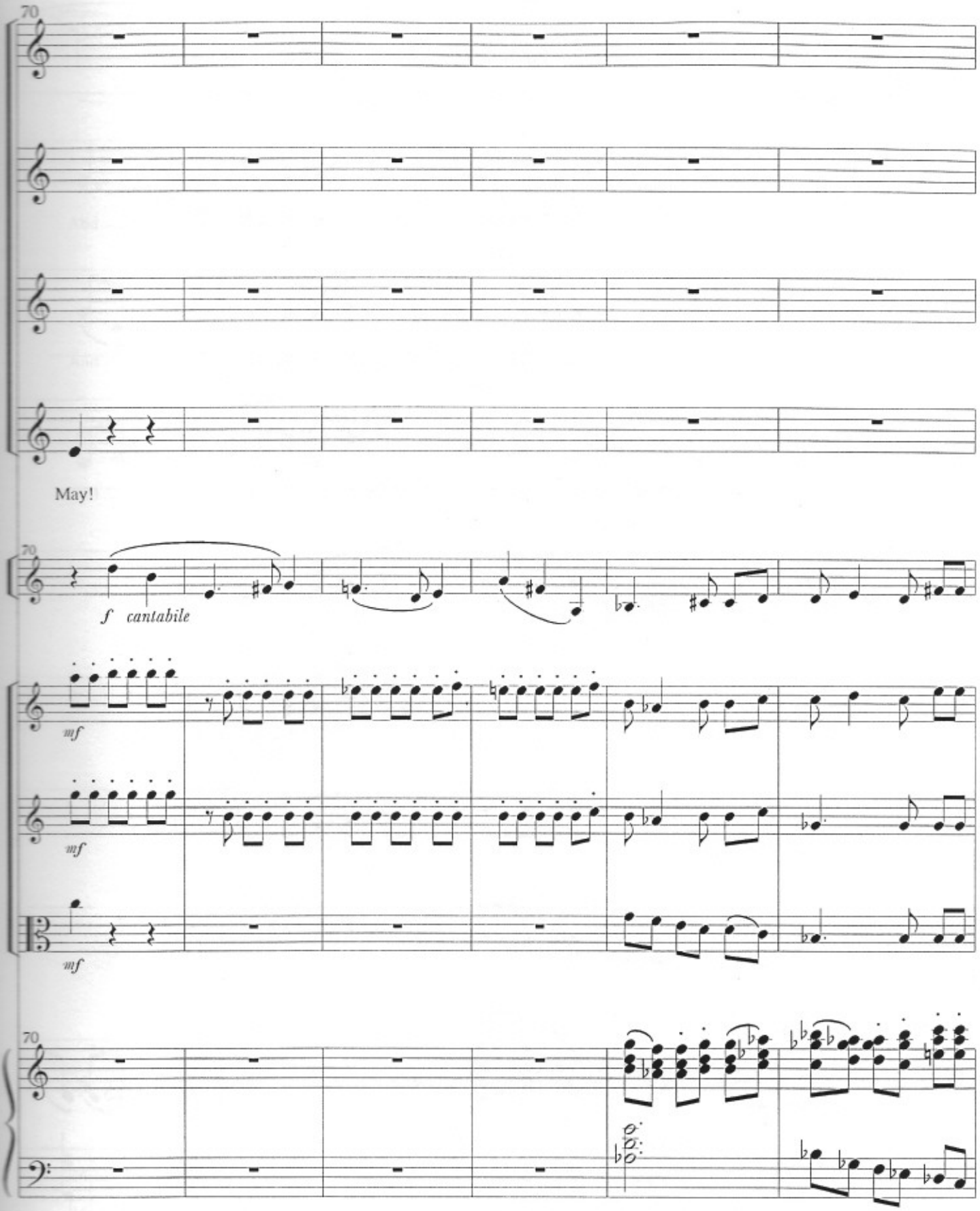

47
bless bless bless bless the day When we first de- light-ed- ly so can say;
bless bless bless bless the day When we first de- light-ed- ly so can say;
bless bless bless bless the day When we first de- light-ed- ly so can say;
bless bless bless bless the day When we first de- light-ed- ly so can say;
47
47

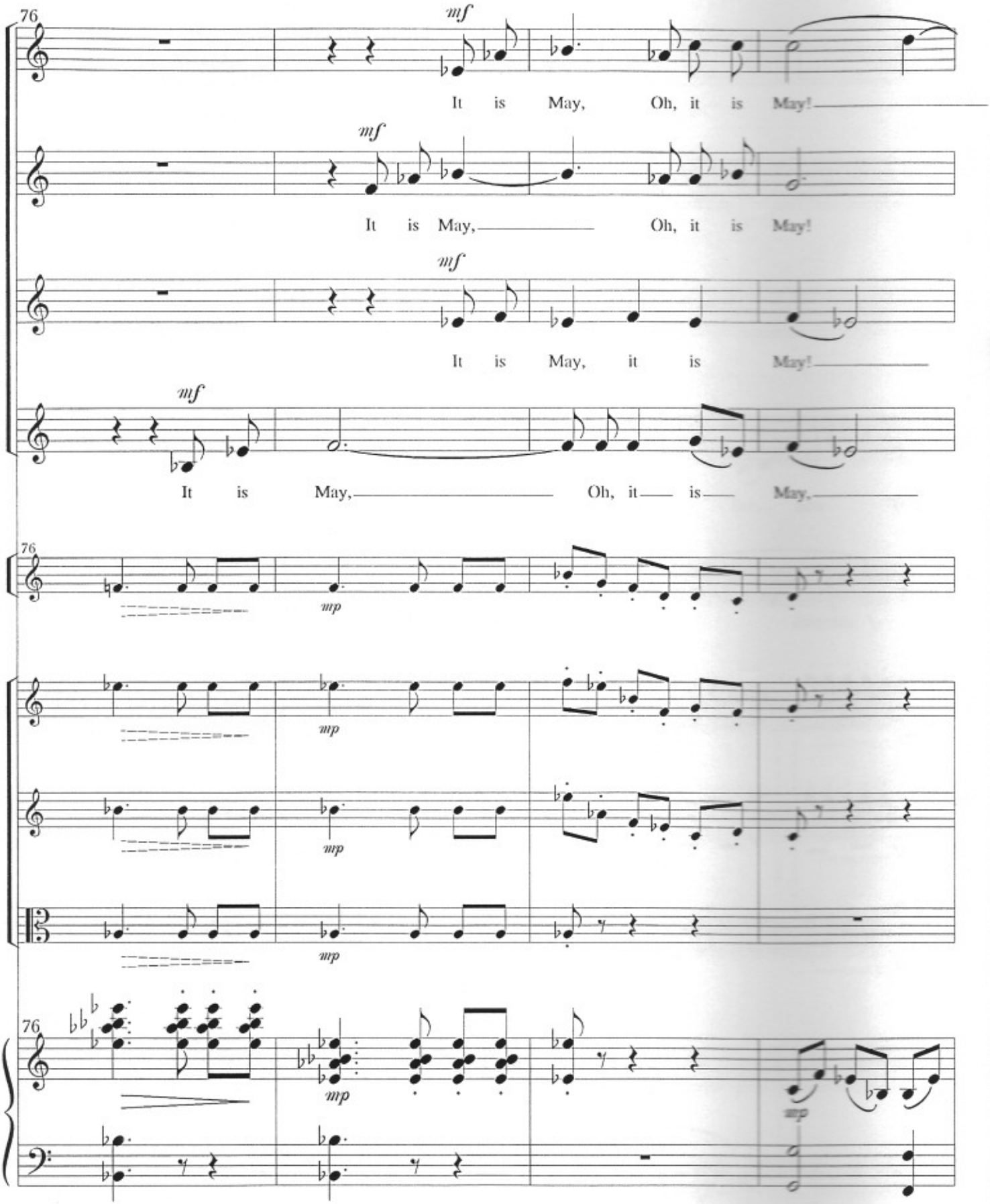

51
51
mf
mf
mf
mf
51
mf

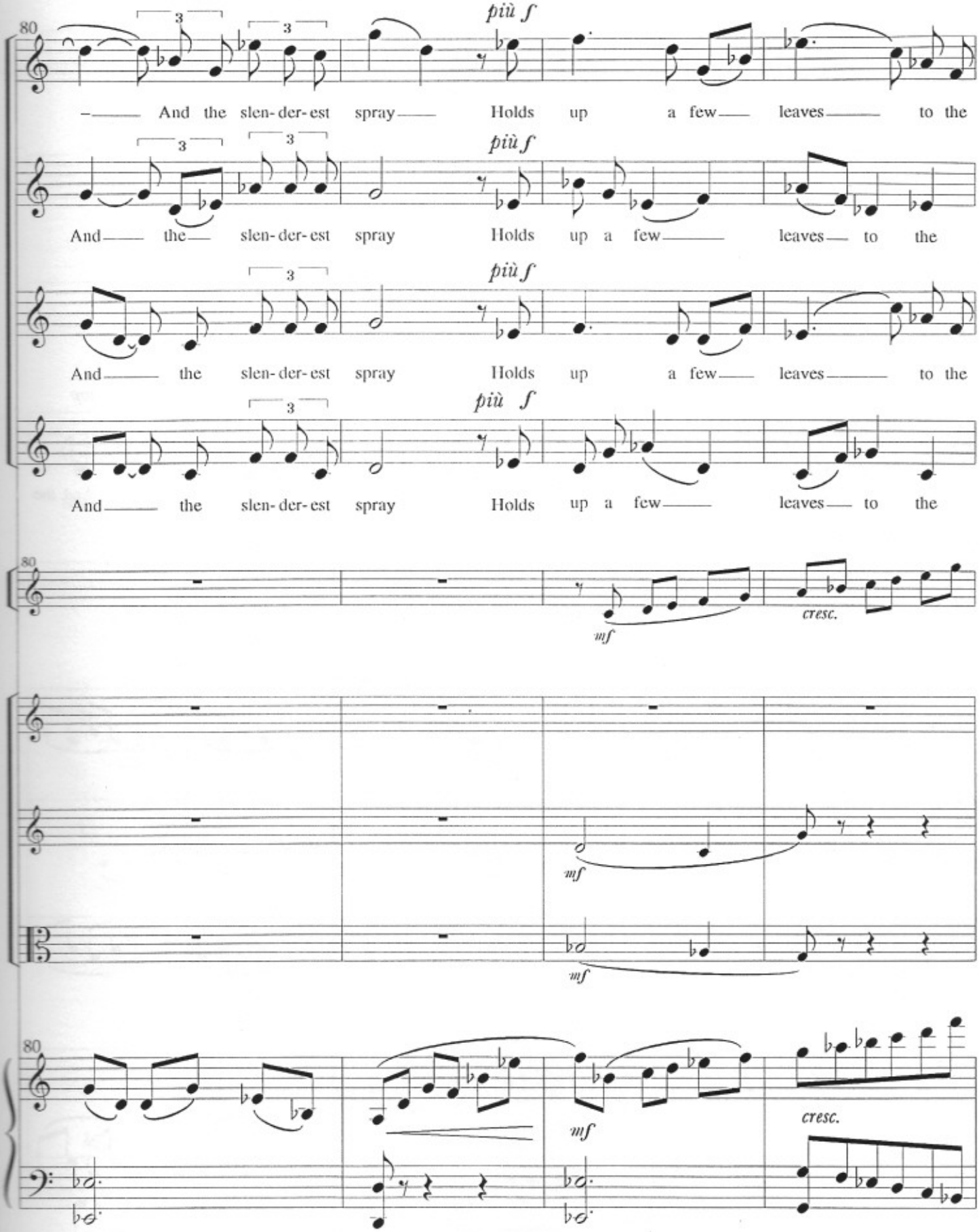

56
Ap— ril— had beams— a - midst her show— ers; Yet
Ap— ril— had beams— a - midst her show - ers;
Ap - ril— had beams
Ap— ril— had beams a - midst her show - ers;

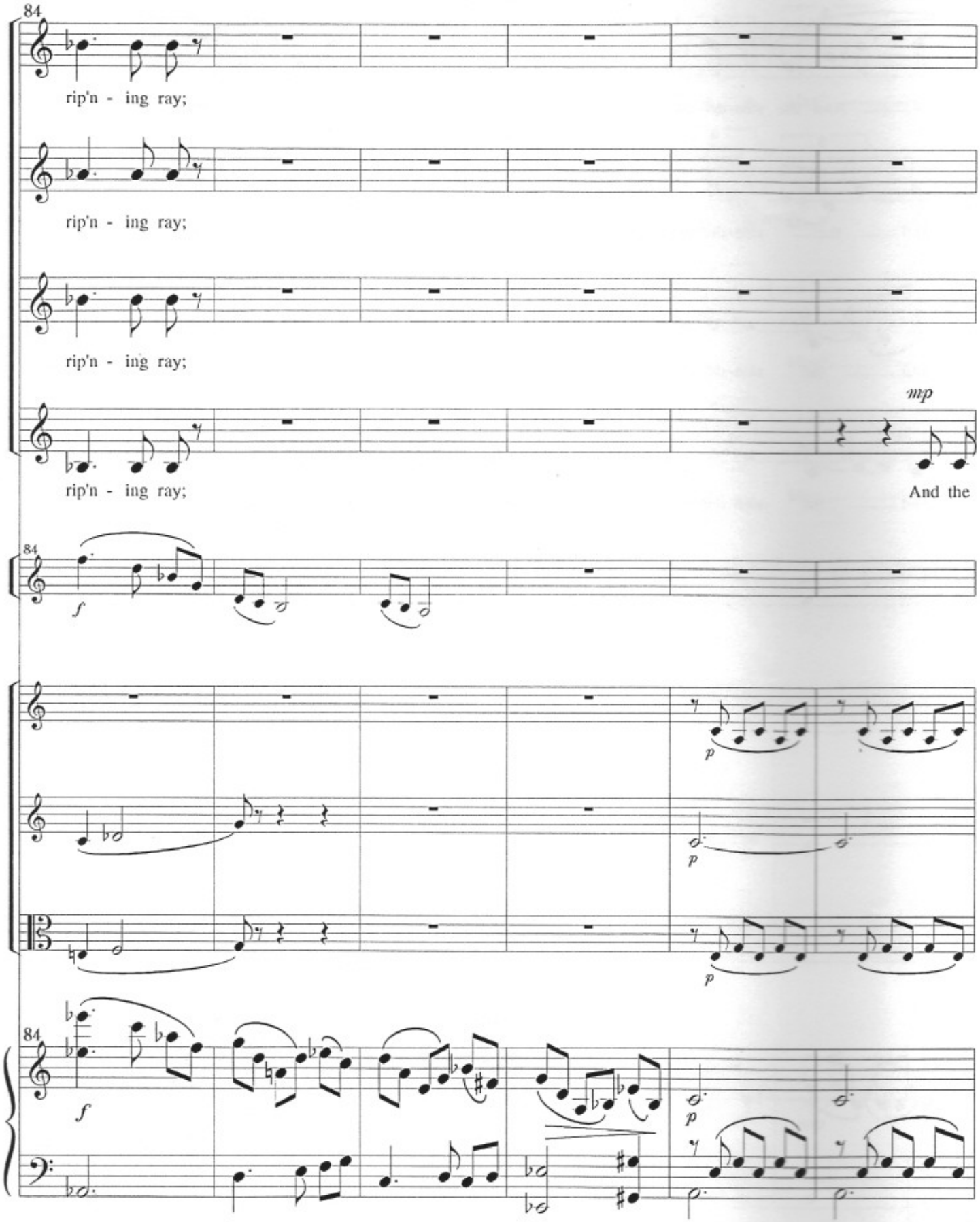

60
p
3
bare- were her gar— dens, and cold— her bow-ers;
p
3
bare- were her gar— dens, and cold— her bow-ers;
p
3
bare- were her gar— dens, and cold— her bow-ers;
p
3
bare- were her gar— dens, and cold— her bow'rs;
60
p cantabile
p cantabile
60
p

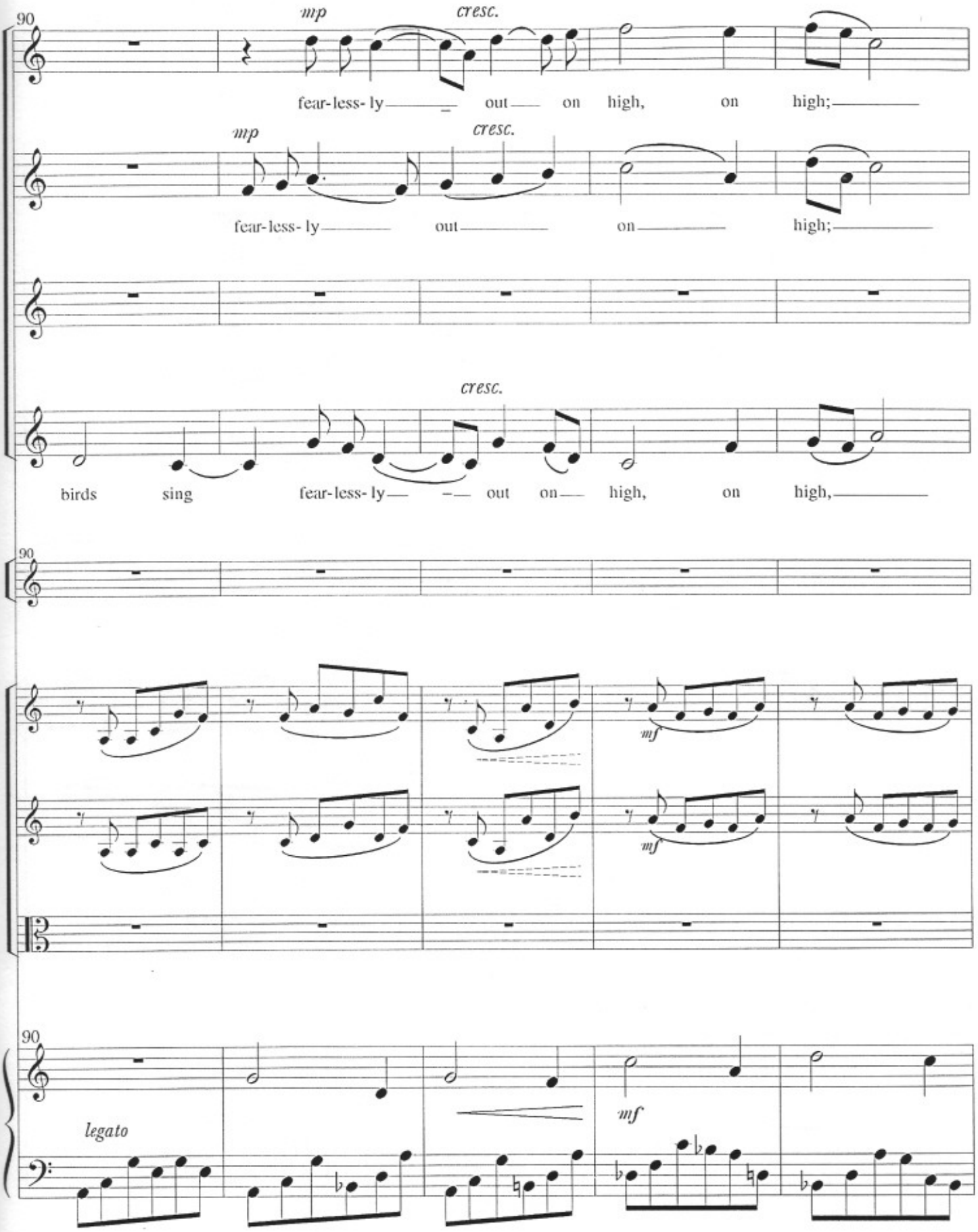

64
p
And her frown— would blight,
p
and her smile be - tray,—
But— now it is
64
64
p
64
p cantabile

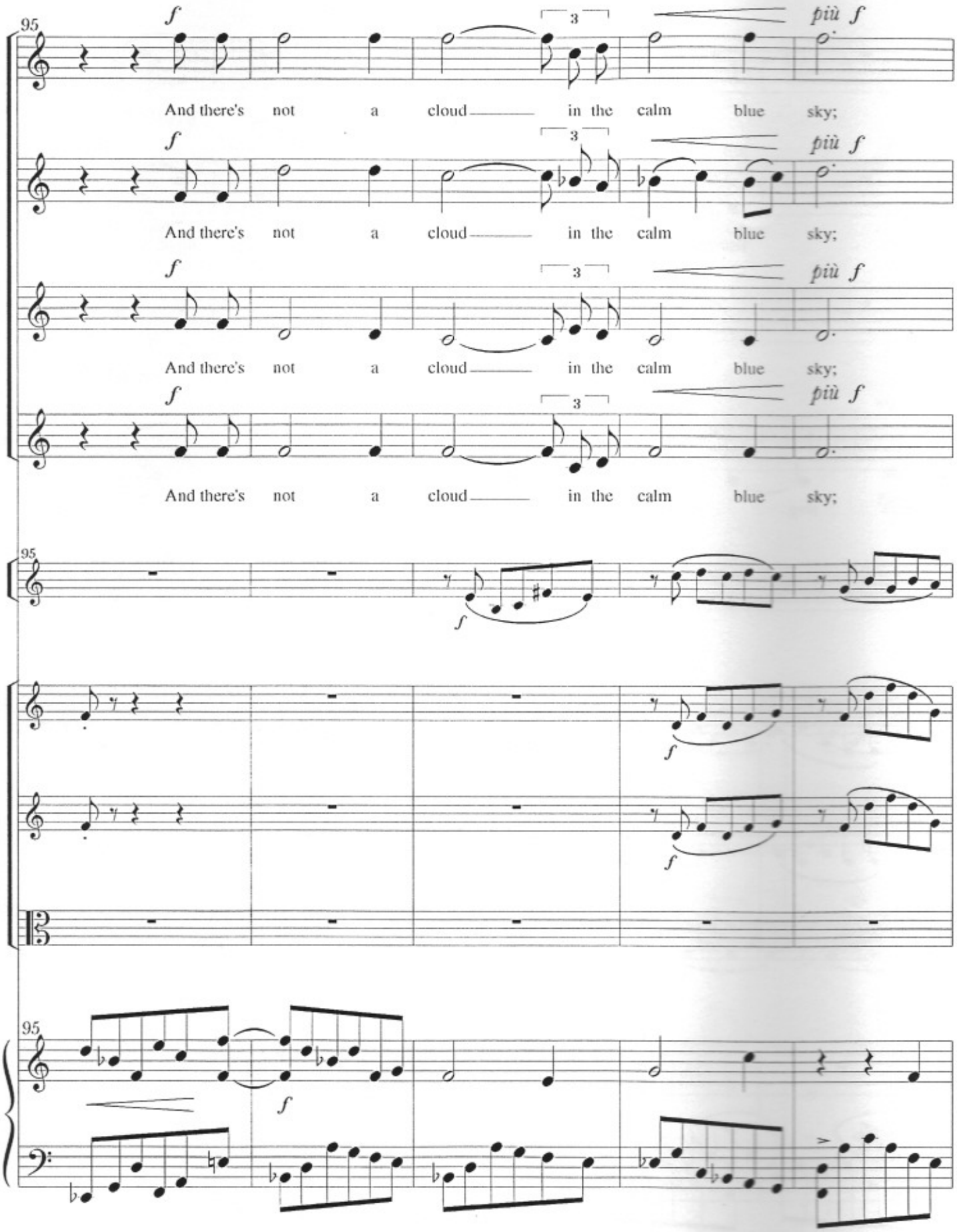

70
May!
70
f cantabile
mf
mf
mf
70

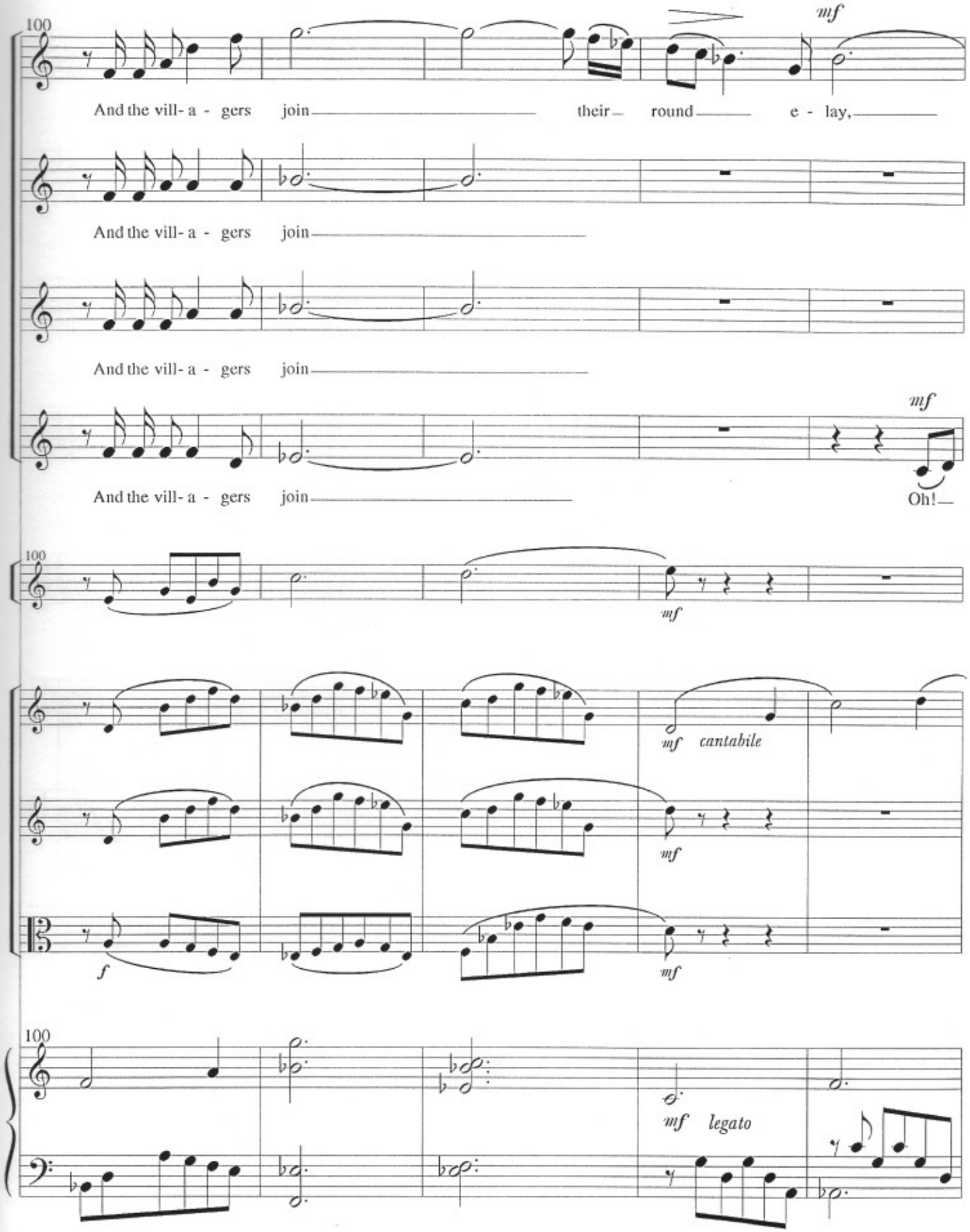

76
mf
It is May, Oh, it is May!
mf
It is May, Oh, it is May!
mf
It is May, it is May!
mf
It is May, Oh, it is May,
76
mp
mp
mp
76
mp
mp

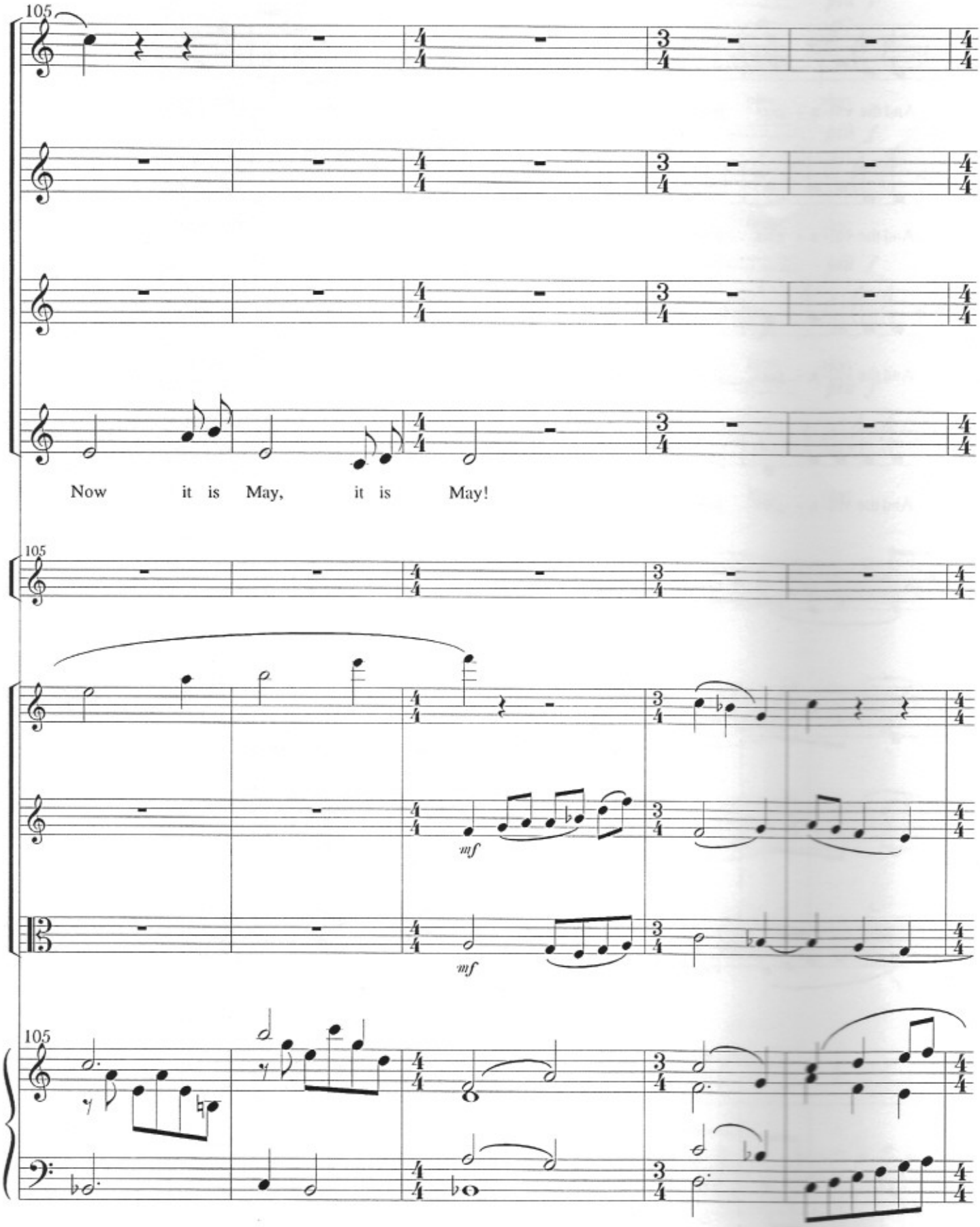

80
più f
– And the slen-der-est spray Holds up a few leaves to the
più f
And the slen-der-est spray Holds up a few leaves to the
più f
And the slen-der-est spray Holds up a few leaves to the
più f
And the slen-der-est spray Holds up a few leaves to the
80
mf
cresc.
mf
mf
80
mf
cresc.

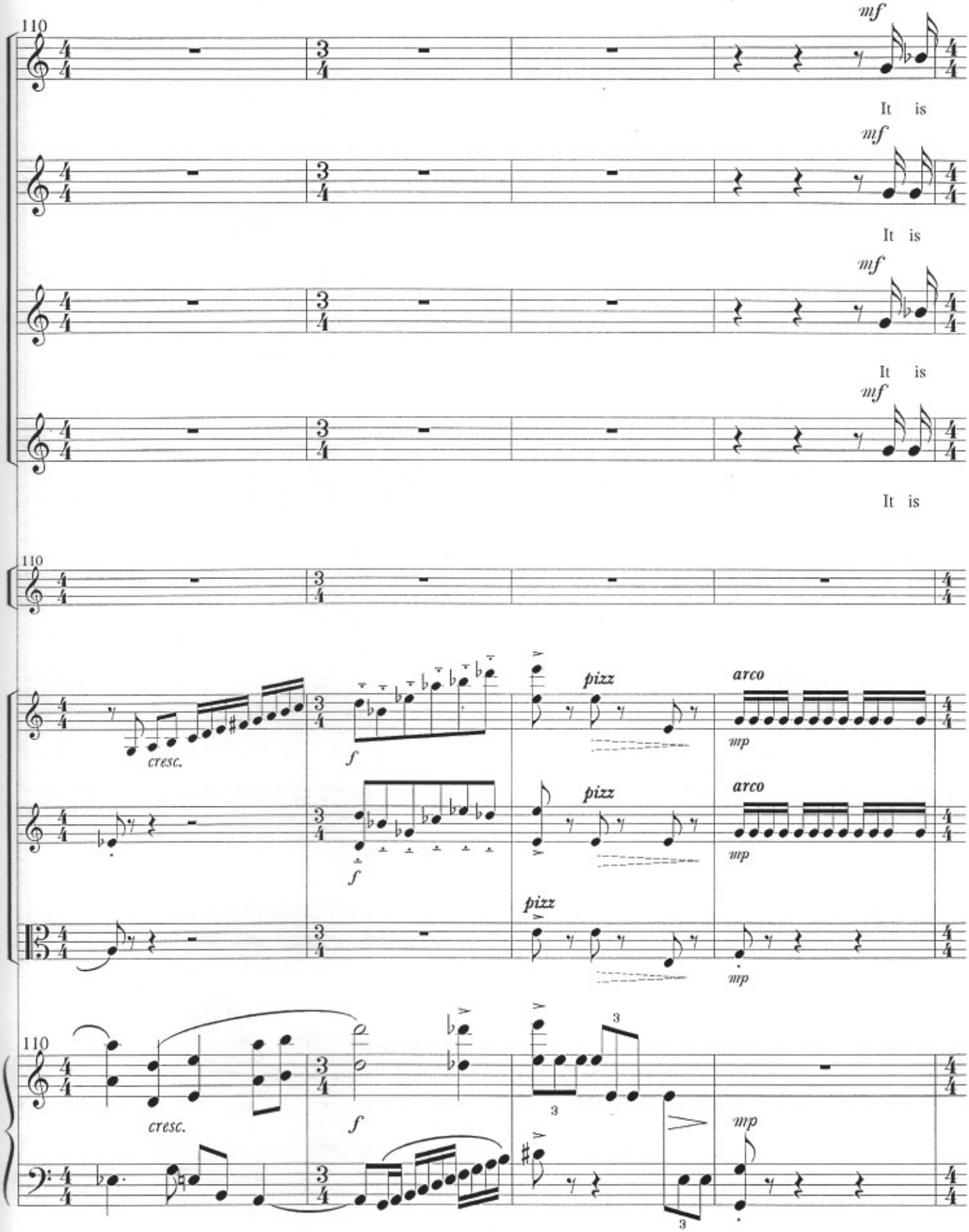

84
rip'n - ing ray;
rip'n - ing ray;
rip'n - ing ray;
mp
rip'n - ing ray;
And the
84
f
p
p
p
84
f
p

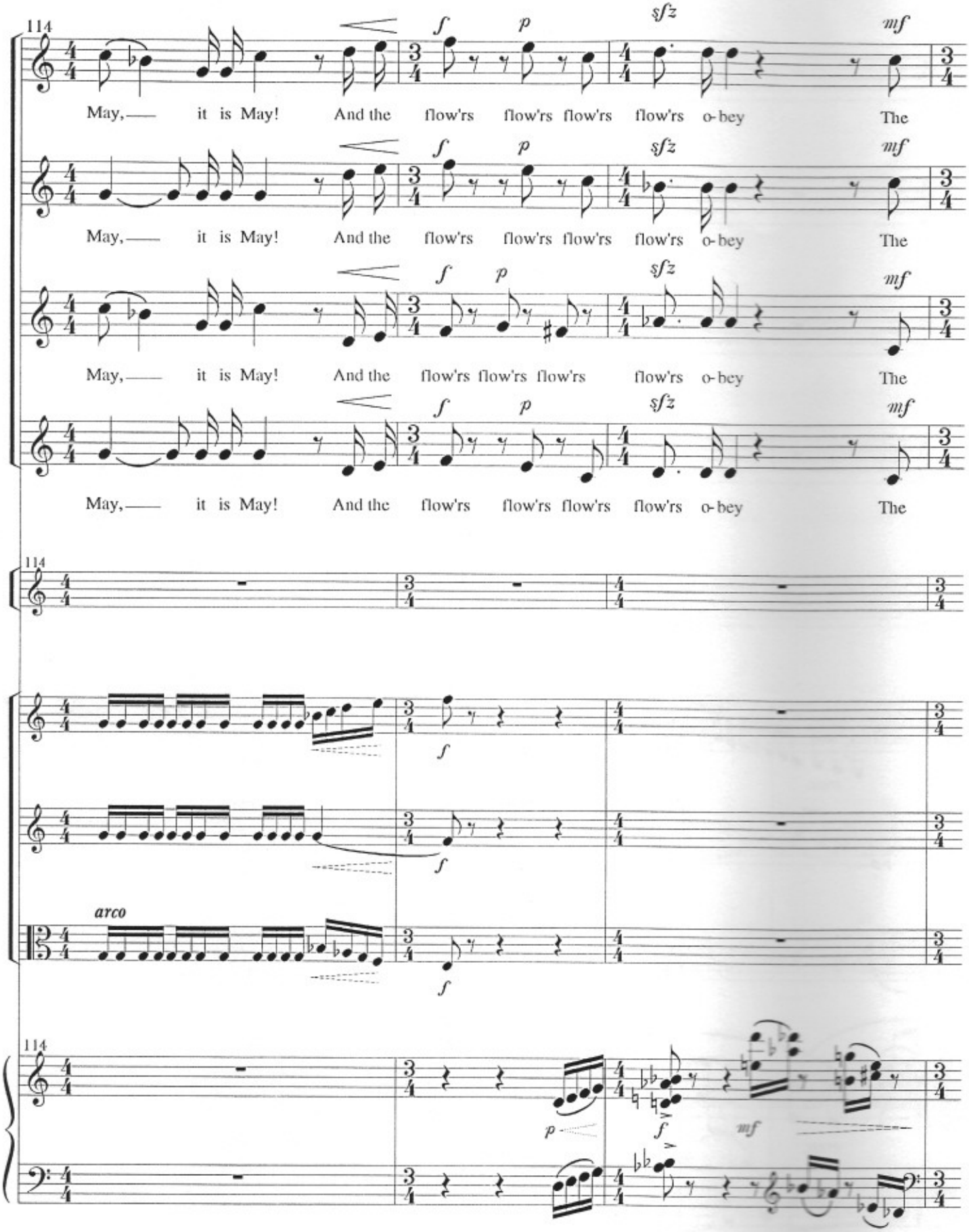

90
mp
cresc.
fear-less- ly out on high, on high;
mp
cresc.
fear-less- ly out on high;
cresc.
birds sing fear-less- ly out on high, on high,
90
mf
mf
90
legato
mf

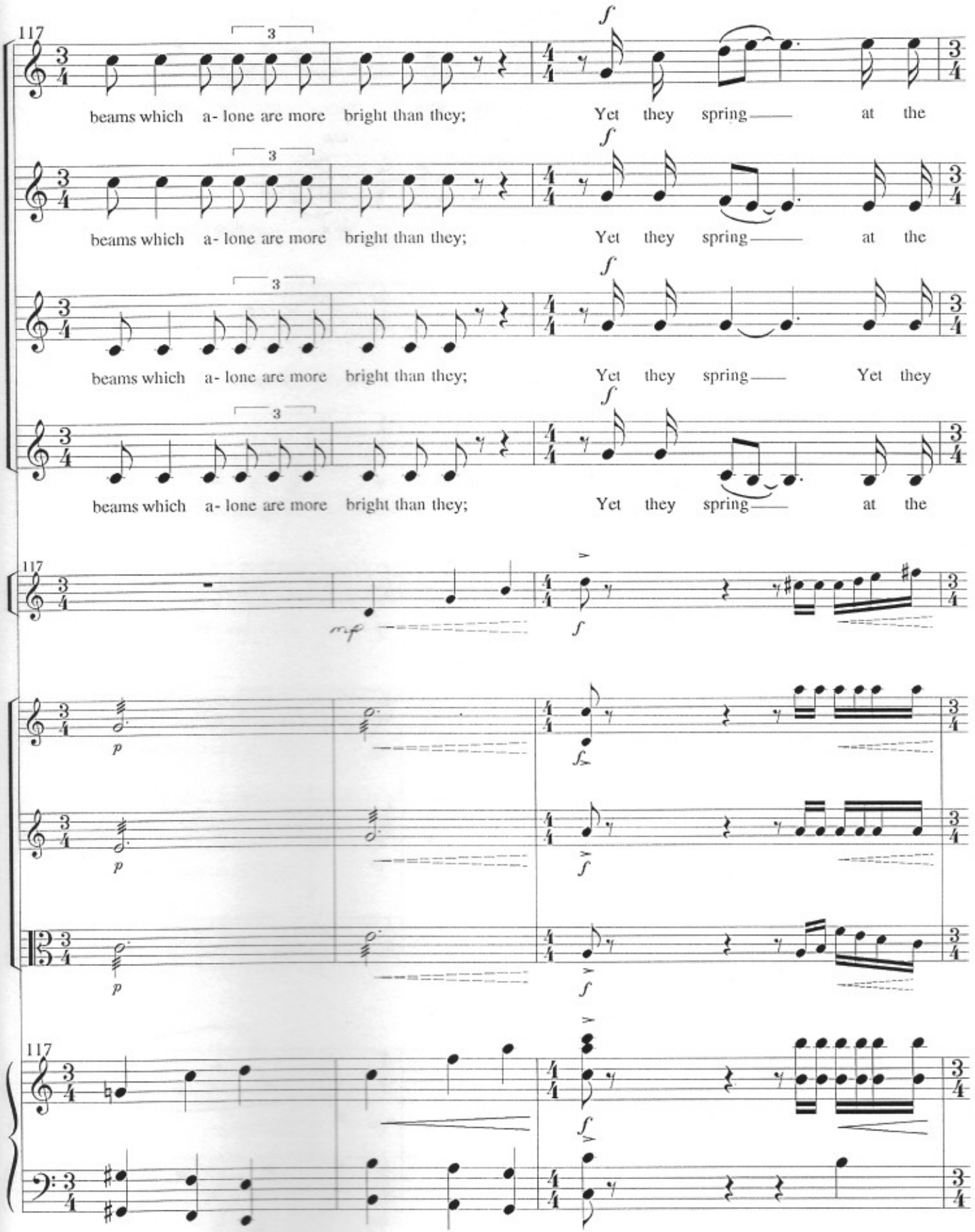

95
f
3
più f
And there's not a cloud in the calm blue sky;
And there's not a cloud in the calm blue sky;
And there's not a cloud in the calm blue sky;
And there's not a cloud in the calm blue sky;
95
f
f
f
95
f

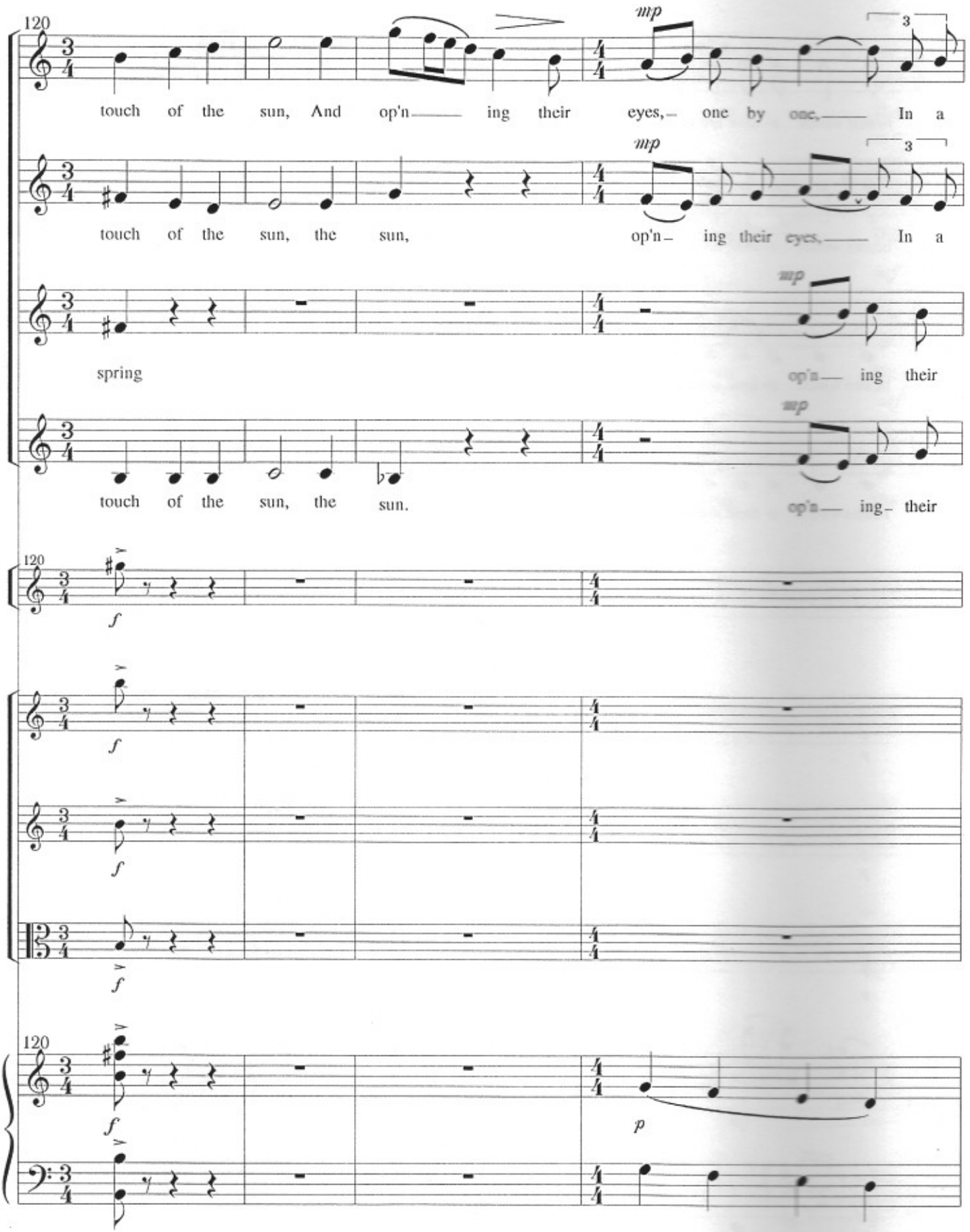

100
mf
And the vill- a - gers join their round e - lay,
And the vill- a - gers join
And the vill- a - gers join
mf
And the vill- a - gers join
Oh!
100
mf
mf cantabile
mf
f
mf
100
mf legato

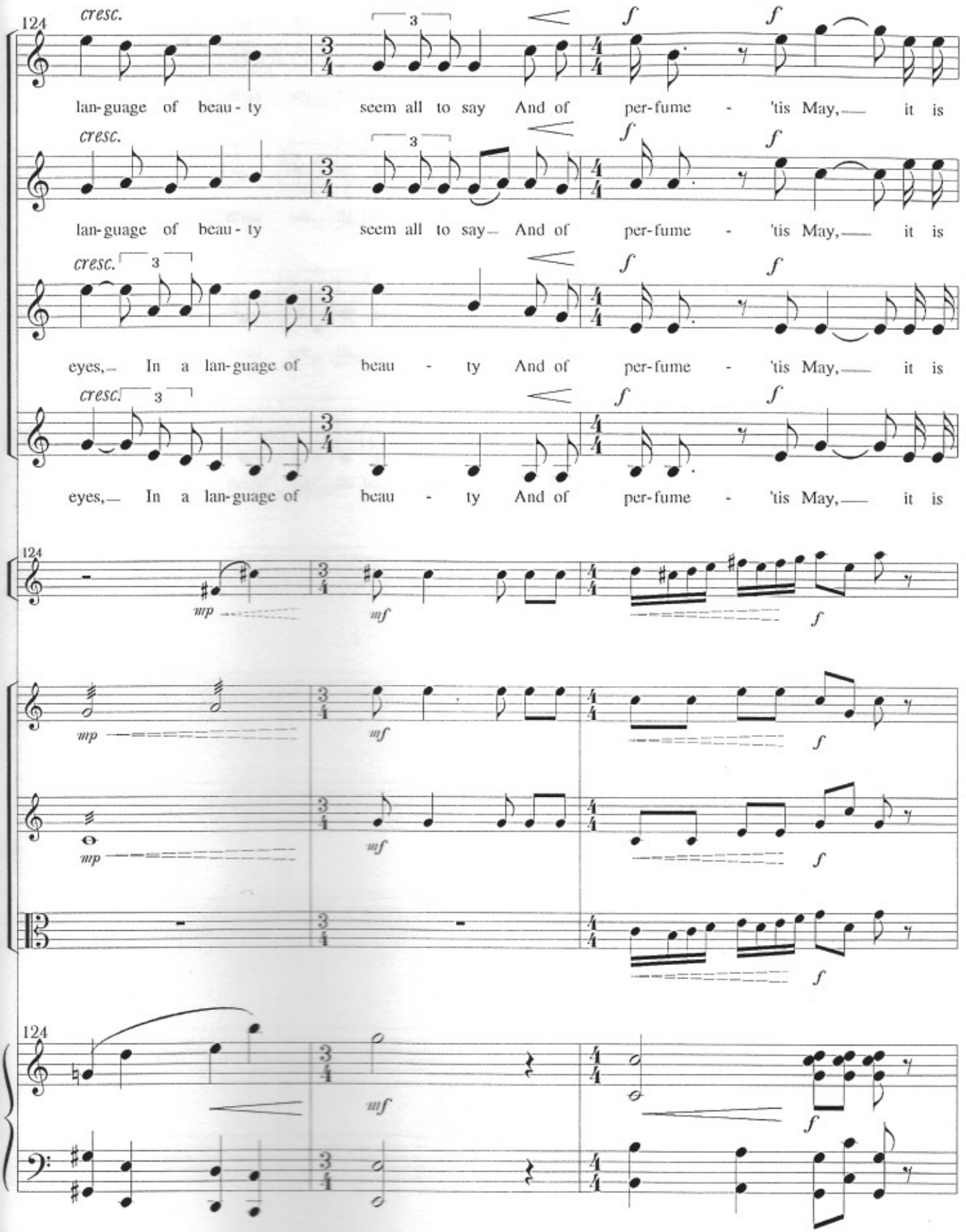

105
Now it is May, it is May!
105
mf
mf
105

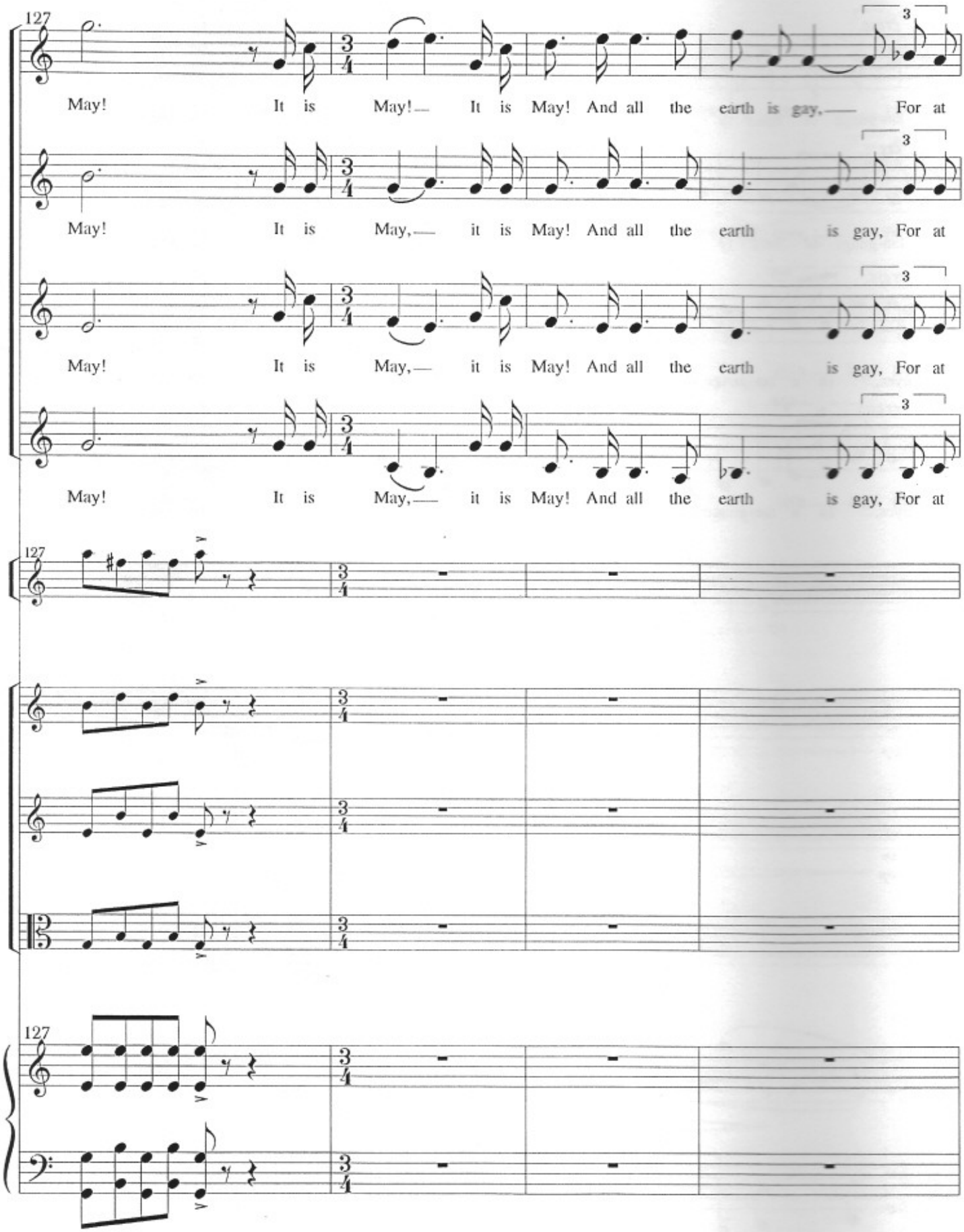

110
mf
It is
mf
It is
mf
It is
mf
It is
110
cresc.
f
pizz
arco
mp
pizz
arco
mp
pizz
mp
110
cresc.
f
3
3
3
mp

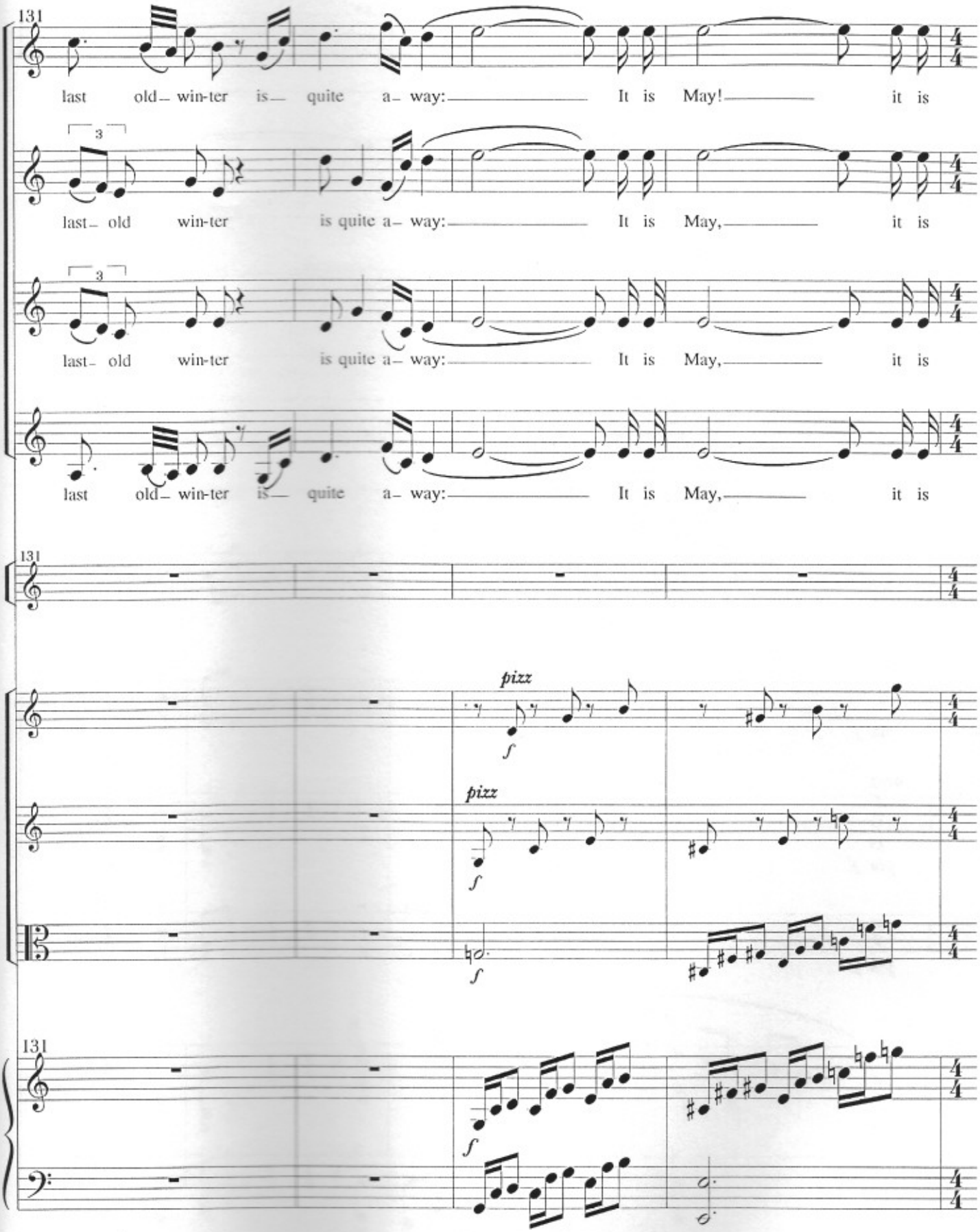

114
May, — it is May! And the flow'rs flow'rs flow'rs flow'rs o-bey The
May, — it is May! And the flow'rs flow'rs flow'rs flow'rs o-bey The
May, — it is May! And the flow'rs flow'rs flow'rs flow'rs o-bey The
May, — it is May! And the flow'rs flow'rs flow'rs flow'rs o-bey The
114
arco
114

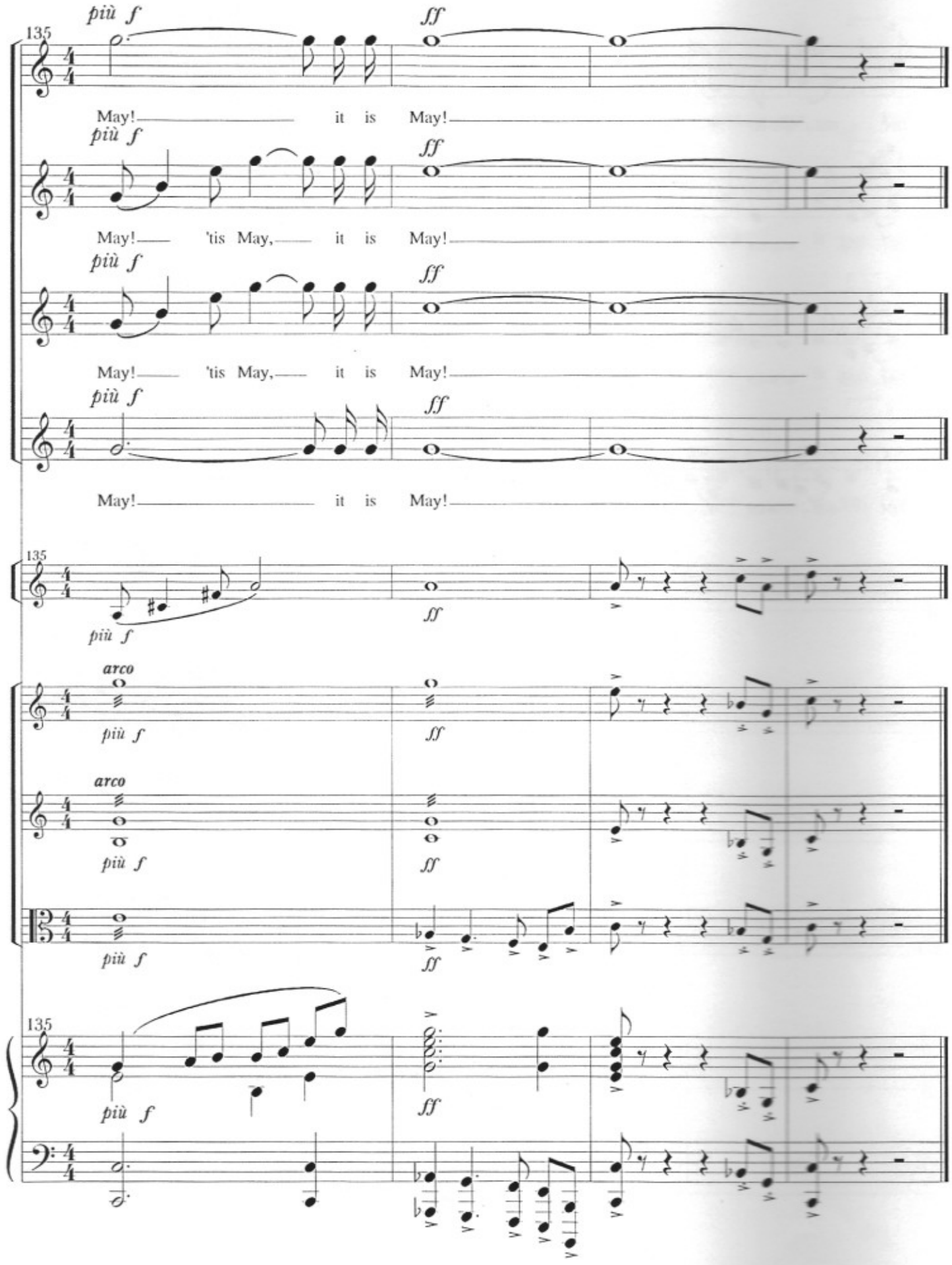

117
beams which a- lone are more bright than they; Yet they spring — at the
beams which a- lone are more bright than they; Yet they spring — at the
beams which a- lone are more bright than they; Yet they spring — Yet they
beams which a- lone are more bright than they; Yet they spring — at the
117
mf
f
p
f
p
f
p
f
117
f


120
touch of the sun, And op'n ing their eyes, one by one, In a
touch of the sun, the sun, op'n ing their eyes, In a
spring op'n ing their
touch of the sun, the sun. op'n ing their
mp
3
f
p


124
cresc.
lan-guage of beau-ty seem all to say And of per-fume - 'tis May, it is
lan-guage of beau-ty seem all to say And of per-fume - 'tis May, it is
eyes, In a lan-guage of beau - ty And of per-fume - 'tis May, it is
eyes, In a lan-guage of beau - ty And of per-fume - 'tis May, it is
mp
mf
f


127
May! It is May! It is May! And all the earth is gay, For at
May! It is May, it is May! And all the earth is gay, For at
May! It is May, it is May! And all the earth is gay, For at
May! It is May, it is May! And all the earth is gay, For at
127
127


131
last old– win-ter is— quite a– way:— It is May!— it is
3
last– old win-ter is quite a– way:— It is May,— it is
3
last– old win-ter is quite a– way:— It is May,— it is
last old– win-ter is— quite a– way:— It is May,— it is
131
pizz
f
pizz
f
f
131
f


più f
ff
135
May! it is May!
più f
ff
May! 'tis May, it is May!
più f
ff
May! 'tis May, it is May!
più f
ff
May! it is May!
135
più f
ff
arco
più f
ff
arco
più f
ff
più f
ff
135
più f
ff

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